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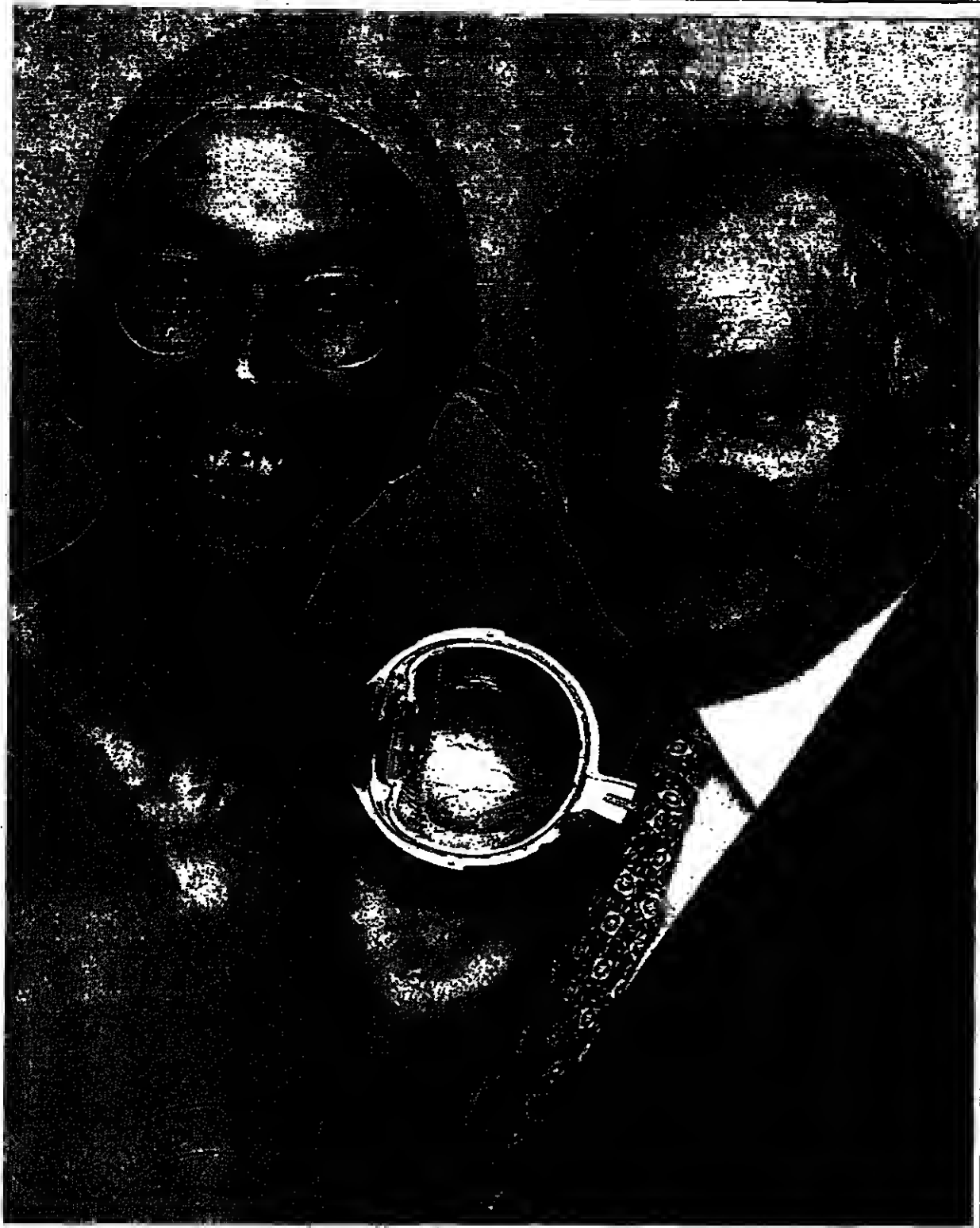
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'It is the sort of thing every surgeon dreams of because it may transform the lives of so many people'

Sarah Boseley on the joy of a retired dentist who was nearly blind



The eye has it... David Wong (left) and John Barr: 'I can now do almost anything I want'

PHOTOGRAPH: DAVE KENDALL

Pioneering eye surgery on man of 70 offers vision of the chance to see again

THE success of an operation to restore the sight of a nearly blind man may hold out hope for thousands whose vision is falling through the natural degenerative process of old age.

John Barr, a 70-year-old retired dentist, is one of the first guinea pigs for an experimental operation to counter the effects of macular degeneration — where the central part of the retina wears out. Between 600,000 and two million people in the UK have only peripheral vision as a result. They are unable to read and many are registered partially blind.

Mr Barr is among the 10 per cent who have a particular form of the disease which may be operable. The treatment is still experimental, but his surgeon, David Wong of the Liverpool Royal Hospital, described it yesterday as the 'single most important surgical development for many years'.

Mr Wong said he had effectively made a healthy part of the eye take over the function of a damaged part. 'This is a once in a lifetime experience for a surgeon

where you take little steps and then suddenly make a giant leap," he said. "It is the sort of thing every surgeon dreams of because it may transform the lives of so many people."

Mr Barr is the seventh patient on whom Mr Wong has performed the operation. In three, the treatment is thought to have failed and in a further three, it is too early to say one way or the other. But Mr Barr has significantly improved sight and is overjoyed. "In the right eye I lost most of the vision about six years ago," he said yesterday. "Then the left eye started to go the same. Then it got to the point I could not read."

"I could not see people I was looking at, and finally they said we are going to register you partially blind." He underwent surgery about a fortnight after first visiting the hospital.

Mr Wong described the procedure as "moving around a carpet which has a worn patch in it and tucking the worn part away". He operated only on the left eye, detaching the retina and making a fold or pleat on it so that when it was



replaced, the worn area was hidden and an undamaged part was in the centre of the retina, becoming the macula, which relays messages about colours and fine detail to the brain.

"It's very attractive to think that after three score years and 10, we have spare parts in our body that can still be used," said Mr Wong, one of a few specialist ophthalmic surgeons in the world who have attempted the technique.

Mr Barr said: "The next day I could see with that eye and the vision has got better and better, and I can now read with it, see who I'm looking at and do all sorts of fiddly jobs I couldn't do before."

"It was very depressing knowing that all I had to look forward to was it getting worse, and then this came up and it's marvellous. I can do almost anything I want." He is looking forward to enjoying hobbies that require good vision, such as reading, biking and wood-turning.

His sight is not perfect, he concedes. Things he saw with his left eye seemed near, and far away with the right eye. "I have to keep closing one eye to see where things really are," said Mr Barr, who is married with three children and two grandchildren, aged 19 and 12.

The Royal National Institute for the Blind said perhaps only 600 to 1,600 of those with macular degeneration would benefit if the operation was generally available. Antonia Chitty, the institute's eye health policy officer, said: "This treatment is not relevant for the vast majority of people."

But others should not despair. "People with macular degeneration never lose all their sight. They can be helped to carry on living an independent life."

Hopes grow for Lockerbie handover

Iran Black in London and Nicholas Palfrey in Tunis

KOFI ANNAN, the United Nations secretary general, is poised to fly to Libya to urge Colonel Muammar Gaddafi to surrender the two men accused of the Lockerbie bombing, 10 years after the worst terrorist incident in British history.

With hopes for a successful outcome mounting in advance of tomorrow's make-or-break talks, and technical preparations for a handover completed, the suspects could be in Scottish custody in Holland within days.

"Yes, I will go to Libya on Sunday," Mr Annan confirmed yesterday after meeting the Tunisian foreign minister, Said Ben Mustapha. "We are going to look at solutions to the problem."

Mr Annan, who has twice averted American-led air strikes against Iraq this year, flies to the eastern Libyan town of Sirte to meet Colonel Gaddafi after a UN envoy set ahead to Tripoli reported back last night that a deal could be within reach.

But diplomats warned that Libya still objects to the non-negotiable British-American demand that if convicted, the two must serve their sentences in Scotland.

There were also warnings that the Libyan leader's unpredictability means nothing can be certain until the suspects have been handed over.

UN sources said Mr Annan understood that there could be no negotiation over the im-

prisonment question — after unequivocal reminders from Madeleine Albright, the US secretary of state, and Britain's Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook.

But he will be able to reassure Colonel Gaddafi that UN sanctions will be suspended — and in effect lifted — once the men are in custody.

Last summer, London and Washington executed a sharp U-turn and offered to hold a unique trial under Scottish law in the Netherlands.

In Holland, the Dutch foreign ministry confirmed last night that the facility for the trial, at the Camp Zeist air base near Utrecht, was ready to receive the Libyans and the massive security operation and media circus that will follow them.

Hans Corell, the UN's chief legal adviser, has been in close contact with the Dutch authorities to make final preparations for a handover. Dutch officials said the men could be in Scottish custody 48 hours after landing in the Netherlands. Technical arrangements are understood to have been completed.

Mr Corell is due in The Hague this weekend.

Britain, reluctantly backed by the US, has gone to extraordinary lengths to coax Col Gaddafi into compliance, sending the clearest possible signal that a trial would be the end of the story and the beginning of international rehabilitation for one of the world's "pariah" regimes.

In the latest move, the Foreign Office has said that a Libyan consulate could open in Scotland to facilitate visits

to Abdel Basset al-Megrahi and Lamen Khalifa Fhimah in Barlinnie prison.

The two were charged in 1991 in the US and Britain for planting a bomb aboard a Pan American airliner on December 21 1988. A total of 270 people, most of them Americans, were killed.

Mr Cook has said he is impressed by the seriousness with which the Libyans seem to be taking the mounting pressure for a handover, and was said to be following developments closely.

"Kofi Annan fully recognises that the US-British plan is non-negotiable," an FO official said.

"We are hopeful but it is very hard to read Libyan intentions," said a US official. "They will either go for it or they won't. But the Annan visit could be a way of easing Gaddafi into a place he wishes to be in anyway. If he wants sanctions lifted this is the way to do it."

The UN Security Council, which imposed sanctions on Libya in 1992, has said they would be suspended once the suspects are in the Netherlands.

These include a ban on air travel, an arms embargo, a freeze on some Libyan assets abroad and a ban on certain types of equipment used in oil terminals and refineries. But there is no embargo on oil exports, Libya's lifeline.

But in practice, once the sanctions are suspended it would be nearly impossible to reapply them because that would require another Security Council vote, which would probably fail.

Derek Nimmo 'critical' after fall down stairs

Vikram Dodd

THE veteran comedy actor Derek Nimmo was critically ill in hospital last night after a fall at his home.

Nimmo, aged 68, has remained unconscious since he fell down the stairs at his home in London on Wednesday evening.

Nimmo, a wit and raconteur, has been a panellist on the Radio 4 comedy programme *Just a Minute* for 30 years and had starred in a string of television comedies.

After the accident he was taken to the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, before being transferred to the Atkinson Morley's Hospital in Wimbledon, south-west London, which specialises in treating head injuries.

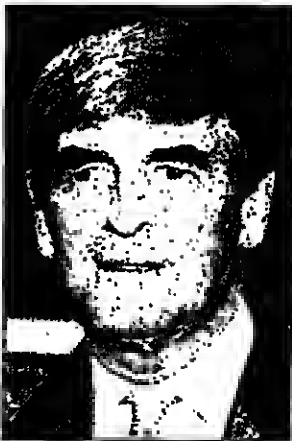
It is feared that doctors treating Nimmo have discovered a brain injury and that the next 48 hours will be crucial to his recovery.

A spokeswoman for the Atkinson Morley's Hospital said: "Mr Nimmo is in intensive care and hasn't regained consciousness."

"He is still listed as critical. His wife and family are with him by his bedside."

Nimmo's agent, Barry Bur-

oett, said his wife of 43 years,



Derek Nimmo: Actor may have suffered brain injury

Pat, and his son were at the hospital.

His television comedy acting career stretches back to the 1960s when he overcame a stutter to land a series of roles, having worked his way up through repertory theatre.

He is a symbol of a kinder, gentler age of British comedy, with his plummy accent making him ideally suited for the role he was often cast in, as an aristocrat or vicar.

His performances in sitcoms such as *All Gas And Gaiters*, *Oh Brother*, *O*

Father, *Hell's Bells* and *Life Begins at Forty*, made Nimmo a household name.

He also had his own chat show for a short while and starred in films including *Casino Royale*, *The Amorous Prawn* and *A Talent for Loving*. In 1971 he was voted show business personality of the year by the Variety Club.

He also became a much sought after dinner speaker and established a successful business organising British actors to tour the Far East.

His experiences abroad made him a fan of unconventional health remedies such as bat's and lizard's blood, and for his *Desert Island Disc* luxury he chose a sack of garlic because of its medicinal properties.

Nimmo, who grew up in Liverpool, had a quadruple heart bypass 11 years ago. He is a member of the Garrick Club, Beefsteak Club and the Lord's Taverners.

Two years ago he crashed his Rolls-Royce into three cars and a greenhouse in Buckinghamshire after the accelerator pedal got stuck.

It was his son Timothy who

in 1988, aged 11, identified the

appeal of his father. "My

father is a twit you see. A

funny, lovable twit. I think

you can make a lot of money

being a twit and get famous."

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Blair's heady rise from Lords defeats



William Hague... behaving like a sixth former dominating the school debating society



Lord MacKay (below) will not speed abolition of the Lords (above) but will not frustrate it. PHOTOGRAPH: MARTIN ARQUES



The argument is now only about how long the reform will take

Ewen MacAskill on what happens next

THE Downing Street press machine has been unusually reckless in the last 48 hours. All caution has been thrown out the No 10 windows and its press officers have been optimistically predicting completion of Lords reform before the general election.

Within three years, the Government could have achieved not only the abolition of the voting rights of hereditary peers but have on the statute book its new-look

second chamber, probably a combination of elected and appointed members.

Such optimism demonstrates the impact of Mr Hague's tactical mistake in the Commons on Wednesday.

For the previous fortnight, the Government had been issuing dire warnings about its whole legislative programme becoming hogged down in the Upper House and having to use the Parliament Act to get the first stage of Lords reform, abolition of the voting rights of hereditary

peers, through Parliament — and that alone could take two years.

The Tories, although chastened, accuse the Government of being overly optimistic. Yes, it can get the abolition of the hereditary voting rights by the end of the year: no, it will not get total reform of the Lords before the next election.

"What next? Permanent rainbows over Downing Street?" a Tory front bench spokesman in the Lords said yesterday. "I doubt if the Government wants to complete Lords reform before the election. It will want to get on and do more electorally popular things."

This is now the crux of the debate: will the Government, and does it want to, complete Lords reform in three years or 10 or even 15?

Ministers and their advisers insisted yesterday that while completion of Lords reform in three years is optimistic, it was achievable. "If people are sensible about it, we could do this," a source in the government whips office said yesterday. "But Hague is not being mature about it."

The bill to abolish the hereditary peers, a step promised soon after the 1911 Lords reform bill, is due to be introduced in the Commons in January or February. It will move quickly to the Lords where the problems will begin, but the problems will be fewer if the deal disclosed this week is adhered to.

The deal will preserve 91 of the 750 hereditary peers, at least temporarily, until reform of the Lords is completed. In return, the cross-benchers, and probably many Tories, will not block the bill. Instead of being stuck in the Lords for two years, the bill will be on the statute book next autumn.

If the bill did not take up excessive time in the Lords, Downing Street suggests it could even bring in other bills, such as the food standards agency bill and the strategic railways bill.

John MacKay, appointed the new deputy Tory leader in the Lords yesterday, has other ideas. He hinted he would not block the hereditary bill but neither would he assist in its speedy passage through Parliament. "We said

we would not frustrate the Scotland Bill but we would look at it in detail. This one will be the same. They will not get it in a day."

No food standards agency bill or strategic railways bill, then, but the abolition of hereditaries could still be on the statute book next autumn. A royal commission, set up in January or February, is expected to take a year or 18 months to complete its work into the composition of a new-look Lords and its functions.

With its report completed, a bill to set up a new chamber, possibly partly elected and partly appointed, could be introduced in the Queen's Speech in autumn 2000 and be on the statute book by autumn 2001. The last possible date for the general election is May 2002.

In the meantime, the 91 hereditary peers would help to keep the business of the Lords going. Unfazed, the schoolboys bounce back convinced that their tactics are right. So it was with Mr Hague and his acolytes yesterday as

Tory leader and his Young Turks prove blind to the big picture

Nicholas Watt assesses Hague's judgment

WILLIAM Hague and his circle of young Tories are behaving like a group of sixth formers who dominate every meeting of the school debating society. Every week the bright youngsters put in virtuous performances, but their poor grasp of the wider world leads to defeat after defeat. Unfazed, the schoolboys bounce back convinced that their tactics are right.

So it was with Mr Hague and his acolytes yesterday as they congratulated themselves for exposing what they saw as the Prime Minister's shoddiness in breaking his principles over peers.

"Oh, I think William has been magnificent," a senior Tory said. "He has shown great leadership and instilled a bit of discipline."

Wiser birds, however, murmured in the Commons tea rooms that Mr Hague had made another catastrophic misjudgment which had played into Tory Blair's hands and exposed divisions within the Conservative Party by losing the popular Viscount Cranborne. An MP said he was mystified because Mr Hague had appeared to throw out the Cranborne agreement on hereditary peers at Prime Minister's Questions on Wednesday, only to say on Newsnight that he welcomed the concession.

"This really shows we have not found our feet," the weary veteran said. "William is surrounded by inexperienced young advisers who have poor judgment."

His remarks show that there is no threat to Mr Hague's leadership at the moment, not least because there is no credible alternative. But there are growing doubts about the judgment of Mr Hague, who has a habit of launching initiatives with great drama only to find that they backfire.

Mr Hague gave the performance of his career during the debate on the Queen's Speech, but threw it away with his jibe about Peter Mandelson's private life when he described him as "Lord Mandelson of Rio". When Mr Hague instructed his peers to vote down the European Elections Bill on no fewer than five occasions — against the advice of such old hands as Tristram Galbraith and the cross-bencher Jack Weatherill — many Tory MPs were delighted with the way the Lords had harried the Government. But one Tory, who vigorously waved his Commons order paper when Mr Hague tore into Mr Blair over the issue, admitted that it was damaging for the unelected Lords to defy the will of the elected Commons on so many occasions.

"I know this probably doesn't look good in the country at large," the MP said. "But you have to realise that we are focused at the moment on inspiring our own grassroots who love the sight of their leader taking on the Prime Minister. There is no way we could get away with this closer to an election."

His frank admission highlighted one of the great weaknesses of Mr Hague's leadership: for all his talk of listening to Britain, he is so focused on how a particular tactic will play internally that he loses sight of what the wider public think.

MPs with long memories feel the party is repeating the mistakes made by the Labour Party in the early 1980s when it was so consumed with its own affairs that it lost touch with reality and produced the 1983 election manifesto which Gerald Kaufman famously dismissed as the "longest suicide note in history".

Hence Mr Hague's ballot of the party membership to endorse his rejection of the European single currency for 10 years, a move which exacerbated party divisions over the issue and made the Prime Minister look pragmatic.

On Northern Ireland, too, Mr Hague has allowed Andrew MacKay, his Northern Ireland spokesman, to launch stinging attacks on Mr Blair and Mr Mowlem over paramilitary de-commissioning, just as they are being hailed for their roles in the peace process.

Mr Hague is not helped by his advisers who, like their leader, are young and bright but seem to lack any grasp of political strategy. Sebastian Coe, his chief of staff, barely made any impression as an MP, while Liam Fox, the constitutional affairs spokesman, has a silver tongue but has made a few questionable judgments. He dreamed up the phrase about having "zero tolerance" towards legislation in the Lords, which was seen as the green light for guerrilla warfare to frustrate the will of the Commons.

Viscount Cranborne, one of the grand aristocrats of the Tory party, has provoked the greatest crisis of Mr Hague's leadership. But the grammar school boy from Yorkshire may yet be rescued by another aristocrat.

Lords a-leaping: five who quit the front bench



Lord Fraser of Carmyllie
Among the sometimes chinless talents of the House of Lords, Peter Fraser stands out as a middle class Scots meritocrat of ability. A Conservative MP from 1979-87 and a member of the liberal Blue Chip dining club (along with Lord Cranborne and Chris Patten), he was solicitor general for Scotland from 1982-1988 and later lord advocate, and is a friend of the Tory chairman and fellow-Scots lawyer, Michael Ancram.

Lord Fraser was "bewildered" by the decision to sack Lord Cranborne. "The outcome of the negotiations he undertook seemed to me desirable and welcome," he said. "As I understand it, that too is the view of the leadership of the party in the Commons. That being so, I believe completely

and unnecessary political damage has been caused." As deputy leader in the Lords, "I was aware these discussions were going on and I certainly encouraged him in the line that he was taking. I believe the outcome he achieved was a desirable one."

Lord Cranborne's offence was to exceed his authority. "Be that as it may, if the outcome was the right one, I cannot see, when you have as faithful a lieutenant in your shadow cabinet as Robert Cranborne, that you sack him. As his deputy, I really felt that having encouraged him in the line that he'd taken, I could hardly stay in the position."

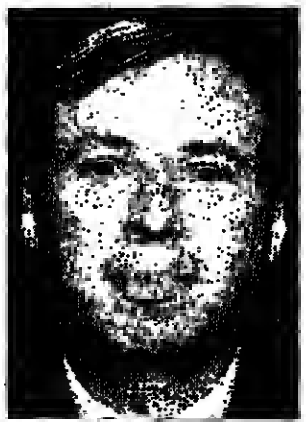
Stressing William Hague had made a mistake, Lord Fraser predicted there would be "a score of unhappy bunnies" on the Labour benches.



Lord Pilkington
A self-described frontbencher "minnow", Peter Pilkington is an academic clergyman who was formerly headmaster of the prestigious St Paul's School in London (and previously taught at Eton).

Aged 65, he raised the peerage in 1982 by John Major after serving on the Parole Board and the Broadcasting Complaints Commission.

Yesterday he said he had resigned as education spokesman because he felt Lord Cranborne's deal was "well inside" the traditions of historical conservatism — "that is, adapting the best of the old to the needs of the present". He praised Lord Cranborne, a friend of his, as an imaginative leader. "I felt his talents were particularly good in negotiating this agreement."



The Earl of Home
His father resigned his peerage to succeed Harold Macmillan as prime minister in 1963/64. The 15th earl has inherited his father's gentlemanly diffidence, but not his political skills.

He was not regarded as a leading light on the Cranborne team as a junior trade and Treasury spokesman.

Aged 55, the earl inherited the family's titles (they date back to 1605) when his father died three years ago. Like him, he was educated in the traditional manner — Eton and Christ Church College, Oxford — and went on to become a director of leading City banks and financial institutions, including arms of blue chip Morgan Grenfell, both before and since the German takeover.



Lord Bowness
Peter Spencer, aged 55, is not a landed gent in the Cranborne manner.

As well as being an enthusiastic yachtsman, he is a former leader of the resolutely unfashionable London borough of Croydon, where he was also mayor in 1979/80. But he forged a solid local government career in key London bodies with interests that took him into the network of European Union committees in Brussels and beyond. He was made a life peer by John Major in 1996.

Lord Bowness stepped down, as did his colleagues, out of loyalty. A solicitor by profession, he was spokesman on the environment, transport and the regions.



Lady Strange
Famous for her campaigns on behalf of war widows and servicemen, Jean Drummond, who turns 70 this month, is also known for bringing in wild flowers to decorate the Tory whips' offices at the Lords. She will do so no longer.

After bearing Mr Hague's explanation for the sacking she felt sufficiently upset to resign the whip and move to the crossbenches.

"My father was a cross-bencher so I am happy there," she explained.

A formidable baroness (the 16th in line; women can inherit titles in Scotland), Lady Strange said: "I believe that, if you are a leader of a party, you must support all those you are responsible for."

Profiles by Michael White

Ulster parties' haggling renewed as Blair leaves

John Mullan
Ireland Correspondent

NORTHERN Ireland's political parties were last night still haggling over the make-up of government ministries and cross-border bodies as hopes of an imminent breakthrough receded almost as soon as Tony Blair left Belfast early yesterday.

Mr Blair, at Stormont for a second time in a week as he sought to save the threatened Good Friday Agreement, appeared to have secured a deal after eight hours negotiations. When he flew out it seemed only minor details remained to be settled.

The SDLP was so confident of a deal that it had a small celebration party, but as the parties returned to Parliament Buildings yesterday, it was soon clear they had different interpretations of the early morning agreement brokered by Mr Blair.

They needed to reach agreement today to allow the Government to push through the

necessary legislation paving the way for devolution in February. They were locked in meetings last night.

They also want a deal before David Trimble, First Minister, and John Hume, leader of the SDLP, go to Oslo to accept the Nobel Peace Prize next Thursday.

But any breakthrough will only bring closer the crunch issue—Sinn Féin's participation in the power-sharing executive. Ulster Unionists are adamant that the party cannot take up its places in government without some IRA decommissioning.

David Trimble, leader of the Ulster Unionists, had indicated he was willing to bow to the SDLP's preferred option of 10 ministries in Northern Ireland. He had preferred seven, because that meant Sinn Féin would have only one seat.

Mr Trimble won in return a division in the powers of the cross-border inward investment body which the SDLP was demanding.

But the Democratic Unionist Party claimed his party

was unable to accept even the reduced nature of that institution, and Mr Trimble's optimism before lunch was soon evaporating.

There was little real surprise that the deal appeared to be some way off. Mr Blair has helped to concentrate minds when he has arrived in Belfast to spearhead negotiations, but as soon as he departs, some politicians have returned to their initial stance.

While the number of ministries has been agreed, only the functions of seven have been settled.

There are likely to be six cross-border bodies, including the controversial trade and business development option. The others will include areas from tourism to transport.

John Taylor, deputy leader of the DUP, said last night: "There is still considerable work to be done. There is no way it will be done today. I have advised people to go off and take a week's holiday."

Mr Taylor's comments echoed those he made in the

run-up to the Good Friday Agreement in April. He said then a deal was a long way off.

There was considerable frustration at Stormont yesterday, with Seamus Mallon, Deputy First Minister, struggling to control his anger. He said a deal was agreed with Mr Blair, and he called on the other parties to confirm they were participants to the deal.

Sean Farren, SDLP assembly member, said: "We all thought there was a deal. But there seems to have been a retreat or at least a halt."

"There seems to have been a sense of unease within the Ulster Unionists. We thought that had been addressed effectively before we reached a deal with the Prime Minister."

Nigel Dodds, an assembly member for the Democratic Unionist Party, which opposes the deal, said: "The agreement has been made, but now the Ulster Unionists are gagging on it. They will sign up to it, and all this now is just optics to keep their people in line."



Theory can go only so far... Jean-Marc Vanden-Broeck gets to grips with the problem at the University of East Anglia

Cracked: the great teapot mystery

Tim Radford
Science Editor

ONLY weeks after one scientist solved the mathematics of the perfectly-dunked digestive biscuit, another has cracked the great teapot mystery.

He has calculated the dynamics that govern the complex flow of a jet of liquid with a free flow bounded by the underside of the teapot spout.

He has taken into account the geometry of the spout, and the tilt of the teapot. And he has, for the first time, included the gravitational acceleration of the tea as it cascades towards the teacup.

The result: a set of differential equations for what scientists call "the teapot effect" and what the rest of us call "the tea stains on the tablecloth".

The problem, according to Jean-Marc Vanden-Broeck of the University of East Anglia, is that liquid poured from a container is a free boundary flow driven by gravity, and therefore difficult to determine analytically. As a Belgian, and a coffee-drinker, the problem had not been presented to him in quite this form until his professorship at the school of mathematics in Norwich.

There are two kinds of flow to contemplate. One involves two free streamlines: the flow over a thin weir, for instance. This is

what every teapot-handler hopes for. But the combination of low pressure and high velocity sets up another problem: the tea tends also to flow along the underside of the spout and then separate to fall as a free stream. If the first jet hits the inside of the teacup, the second is bound to land on the tablecloth.

The dribbling teapot is an ancient problem. Now it has a physical explanation, if not a solution. "When you have a flow around the spout," said Prof Vanden-Broeck, "the pressure in the fluid along the underside of the spout is much lower than the atmospheric pressure which pushes the jet out of the spout. That is the teapot effect. It has been looked at by many people. What I did was a generalisation of the theory by including the effect of gravity."

His research was supported by the US navy and air force, and the US National Science Foundation. This is because the mathematics that describe the flow of tea from spout to cup also apply to the resistance of waves to a ship's hull coursing through the high seas. Stephen Twining, of Twinings Tea, commented: "My family has been pondering many aspects of the fine institution of tea drinking for 300 years, but I must confess the dribbling spout phenomenon has not been on that agenda."

Lewinsky interview bought by Channel 4 as exclusive

Janine Gibson
Media Correspondent

CHANNEL 4's Jon Snow will interview Monica Lewinsky in an exclusive international deal that cost £400,000.

The news presenter has been granted complete editorial freedom in his questioning of Miss Lewinsky on "her life and the events of last year, including her relationship with President Clinton", according to Channel 4.

It will be broadcast within hours of an interview believed to be conducted by ABC Television's star interviewer, Barbara Walters.

ABC's deal covers only United States and Canadian rights to Miss Lewinsky's

story. Channel 4, however, has bought the worldwide rights to its interview, and plans to recoup some of the cost through international sales.

Granada Television had hoped to win the interview with its new star signing, Martin Bashir—the veteran of one-to-ones with Diana, Princess of Wales, and the au pair Louise Woodward. The BBC ruled itself out of the competition early on, saying it would not pay Miss Lewinsky for her story.

Mr Snow will conduct the interview either in Washington or New York next month. It is expected to be broadcast on Channel 4 in February, before publication of Andrew Morton's book about the former White House intern.

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The benefit of the industry is also felt within the Treasury as pharmaceutical companies in Britain pay hundreds of millions of pounds in Corporation Tax each year.

But perhaps the industry is least known for its investment in education, funding half of all post-graduate training for GPs and supporting universities to the tune of £100 million a year.

If all this good work is not encouraged, it wouldn't just be the industry that would fall sick.

It would be the country.

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Guardian Fiction Prize

Scottish poet wins award with her debut novel

Den Glaister
Arts Correspondent

FOR the second year in succession the Guardian Fiction Prize has been won by a debut novelist. Jackie Kay was presented with the prize and a cheque for £5,000 for her novel, *Trumpet*, the story of a Scottish jazz trumpeter Joss Moody, who on his death was revealed to be a woman.

Kay, an award-winning poet, was presented with the prize by lawyer and writer Anthony Julius at a ceremony at the Commonwealth Club in London last night. The prize, which last year was won by a Canadian, Anne Michaels, for her debut novel, *Fugitive Pieces*, is Britain's longest-running award, established in 1955.

Stephen Moss, chairman of the judges, said: "For the way it marries ambition with understatement; for the strength of the writing; for its fascinating subject material; and for the way it engages with the great emotions without ever becoming sentimental, we decided to award the 1998 Guardian Fiction Prize to Jackie Kay's *Trumpet*."

The novel, which was inspired by a newspaper report about the death of the trumpeter, received ecstatic reviews. "The voices in this

tender, compassionate work were still singing in my head a couple of weeks after I'd finished it," wrote Christina Patterson in the *Observer*.

Catherine Lockerbie, said in the *Scotsman*: "Her language is tight, paced, tunneling into the dark places of hurt and confusion."

Kay was born in Edinburgh in 1961 of a Scottish mother and a Nigerian father, was adopted by a Glaswegian couple.

Her first poetry collection, *The Adoption Papers*, published in 1991, won the Saltire and Forward prizes. Her second collection, *Other Lovers*, won the Somerset Maugham Prize. Last year she published *Bessie*, a biography of blues singer Bessie Smith.

"I've always been interested in people creating an identity, the fluidity of inventing themselves," she said. "Women who dressed up as men captured my imagination, that visual self-creation — Marlene Dietrich, Grete Garbo, Josephine Baker — I thought they were sexy. But Billy Tipton was about living your life like that: he was a self-made man."

Others on the short list were Derek Beaven for *Acts Of Mutiny*, William Boyd for *Armadillo*, Alan Hollinghurst for *The Spell*, Edward St Aubyn for *On The Edge*, and Liz Jensen for *Ark Baby*.



Jackie Kay whose prize-winning novel tells the story of jazz trumpeter Joss Moody who, on his death, is found to be a woman. PHOTOGRAPH: HOWARD BARLOW

Previous winners include Seamus Deane, Pat Barker, Pauline Melville, J.G. Ballard, Beryl Bainbridge, John Berger, and Clive Barry.

This year's judges, chaired by Stephen Moss, were critic Alex Clark, Lindsay Duguid of the *Times Literary Supplement*, novelist Tibor Fischer,

critic Maya Jaggi, Anthony Julius, writer and broadcaster Mark Lawson, and Brookside executive producer Phil Redmond.

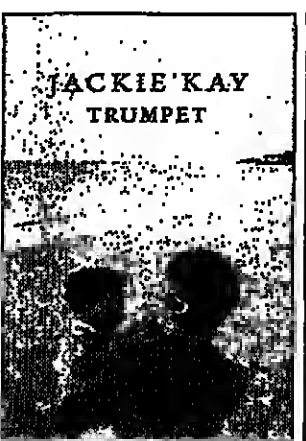
Jackie Kay interview in Saturday's books pages. Further reports at <http://reports.guardian.co.uk/fiction/>

Extract/ 'When Colman goes through our house, pointing hindsight's big torch, he will find things we never planted'

I CAN SEE the dead Joss quite clearly now. He is quite different to the living one. He looked unlike himself when he was dying. Unlike the man I married. I don't know who he looked like. Maybe he looked more like her in the end. More like Josephine Moore.

What was she like, Josephine? Did she play hopscotch, marbles? Did she have friends? Was she close to her mother? Did she buy

a 78 and rush home to play it? Did she climb trees? Did she play with dolls? Did she stand outside pubs playing jazz in the rain, tilting her head to listen? Did a stray dog pass by her and howl in the strange light of a paper moon? Was that the night she decided to change her whole life? I don't want to think about her. Why am I thinking about her? If he comes with her I will say one thing and that will be



all. I didn't think about it at all. Her letter says, with hindsight would you have

done anything different? You don't live in hindsight though, do you? Hindsight is a different light. It makes everything change shape. When Colman goes through our house, pointing hindsight's big torch every where, he will find things in our garden that we never planted. One of the newspaper articles had the headline "Living a lie". They found people who claimed to be Joss's friends who said things like, "He fooled us completely." But it didn't feel like that. I didn't feel like I was living a lie. I felt like I was living a life. Hindsight is a lie.

Trumpet, by Jackie Kay, published by Picador at £12.99.

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Review/ Love, sympathy and tenderness from a writer to respect

JACKIE KAY'S novel, *Trumpet*, which is about Joss Moody, a jazz trumpeter who pretended to be a man and even had a wife and a foster child who called her dad, clearly sidesteps prurience and pretentiousness. This book is all about love, and it makes its point by leaving some things private.

Joss himself remains a mystery, although we learn a lot about him/her along the way. The people who were closest to him loved him both as a man and a woman, so that the distinction becomes immaterial. There are no crass revelations or "answers".

Trumpet is written in clear, spare prose which is full of poetic touches such as this description of death, when "the whole face opens out as if it has been finally understood".

The qualities of sympathy and tenderness in this novel make it special, and make Kay a writer to respect.

Katy Ernick, writing in the *Guardian*

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Mixed reaction from teachers as green paper offers high cash incentives to reward 'new professionalism' and stem school staffing crisis

£1 bn plan for teaching 'revolution'

John Carvel
Education Editor

SUCCESSFUL teachers will get an immediate salary increase of about £2,000, and could eventually boost their pay by more than 50 per cent under Government plans announced yesterday to provide incentives for excellence in the classroom.

David Blunkett, the Education and Employment Secretary, said he would make £1 billion available to fund the scheme over its first two years, starting in April 2000.

The money will be for teachers in England who can prove their worth during appraisal by heads — backed up by external assessment to avoid favouritism.

Appraisal will include observation of classroom performance, and measurement against personal targets, including pupils' behaviour and academic achievement.

There will also be a school performance bonus shared among staff of establishments improving their performance year-on-year, or sustaining good results. The Government will set aside about £60 million a year for these bonuses, worth up to £25,000 for larger secondary schools.

Mr Blunkett, who presented the "radical and modernising" proposals in a green paper, promised extensive consultation with teacher unions until Easter. "This is about something for something. For the first time in years, a commitment to invest and reward teachers in return for a new professionalism is on offer. This will mean greater individual accountability, more flexibility and higher standards," he said.

At present, teachers without additional departmental responsibilities reach a pay ceiling of £22,410 after about seven years in the profession. Mr Blunkett has decided this is not competitive with other comparable jobs, contributing to the loss of too many teachers before they are 30.

Under the new plan, teachers would be regularly assessed in the early years of



Reactions... from LSE students Lucy Corrin (left), Christina Bartsch (above) and Costas Ionnides PHOTOGRAPH BY GRAHAM TURNER

Plans to boost profession fail to lure high-flyers to the chalkface

Rebecca Smithers
Education Correspondent

THE proposals for a "fast track" scheme for high-flying trainee teachers and performance-related pay are designed to help stem the teaching recruitment crisis by luring the country's brightest talent into the profession.

But at the London School of Economics — a prestigious springboard into highly paid jobs in the City, finance, business and law — few students felt the proposals were attractive enough to make them consider teaching as a career.

Last year only 2.6 per cent of LSE graduates went into teaching — including in further and higher education as well as in primary and secondary schools — compared with 26.3 per cent who went on to further academic study, and 19.5 per cent who found jobs in accountancy, law and research.

Lucy Corrin, a second year law student with her sights set on becoming a barrister, said she only

ruled out becoming a teacher when she took her A levels. "I think being a barrister will offer a lot more job satisfaction than teaching, where there is so much administrative work," she said.

Robert Sams, taking a Masters degree in philosophy, said teaching had "no appeal", and that the average starting salary was still very unattractive compared with the £40,000 he is likely to earn as a trainee analyst in a securities house.

Similarly unimpressed was 21-year-old German-born Christina Bartsch, who is working as a PA to help finance her part-time Masters degree in the history of international relations. "My mother is a teacher, but it's not something I am drawn to. I could earn more as a PA."

But 21-year-old Jamie Kennedy, in his first year studying social policy and administration, said he might consider secondary school teaching, perhaps at a later stage in his career. "I had a very good history teacher for A level and it's

something I would certainly think about. It's good that the Government are giving teachers the chance to earn more as they are paid very poorly for what they do."

Unlike other LSE students, postgraduate Costas Ionnides has already had a taste of the City life, working briefly for the bank Credit Suisse First Boston. "I thought it was a crap job — I found the hours very long and the system was very hierarchical. But coming to LSE I have been shocked at how materialistic the students are. Lately I have been considering teaching as a career as there must be more to life than money."

Unusually, LSE offers its students the chance to work in inner London schools — helping pupils with their academic work — in a tutoring programme sponsored by the oil giant BP.

Sophie Broderick, aged 19, a second-year government and economics student, has decided after a spell at a primary school in King's Cross, north London, that she is not cut out to be a teacher. Instead, she is applying for accountancy traineeships with the big banks. "It's been fun and rewarding working with kids," she said. "But it made me realise what a hard job teaching is, particularly in a deprived area."

Unimpressed with the Government fast trackscheme, she believes, like many of the other students, that it takes a lot more than a good degree to make a good teacher.

their career. High-flyers would be fasttracked and could be given double annual increments, but those falling below expectations could lose their increment and get an inflation-only pay settlement.

When teachers approached the £22,410 ceiling, they could apply to be assessed to establish if they showed the "high and sustained levels of competence, achievement and commitment" meriting transference to a higher scale.

If they passed that threshold, they would get a bonus of about £2,000 a year and could progress to a salary of £35,000 — either by superior classroom performance or taking on extra responsibilities.

The green paper said: "Over time we would expect the majority of our teachers to be of a standard which would allow them to cross the threshold if they wished."

An elite cadre of Advanced Skills Teachers — on up to

£40,000 a year — would increase from 100 this year to 10,000 in the longer term. And the pay ceiling for heads turning round challenging schools would rise to £70,000.

The performance of every member of staff would be thoroughly assessed every year to set personal improvement targets, and this monitoring system would be inspected by Ofsted.

The green paper got a mixed reaction from teachers.

Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said the emphasis on payment by results would be rejected by the profession as a recipe for "cronyism and discrimination". But Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers, said there was "potential for a major breakthrough for the classroom teacher" because ministers were avoiding a crude

system of performance related pay.

David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said the green paper offered the biggest revolution in teachers' career prospects for decades. "It will be controversial... but it deserves very serious consideration, not least by head teachers who will largely determine whether the proposals succeed or fail."

Other proposals in the document include:

- Improved working conditions to eliminate "the shabby staffroom with the battered electric kettle"
- At least 20,000 more qualified classroom assistants and help from undergraduates "earning whilst learning"
- National tests for trainee teachers in literacy, numeracy and IT
- Individual learning accounts for school staff to develop their skills.

More training out of school hours to minimise disruption.

Shadow education spokeswoman Theresa May said: "We agree that good teachers should be rewarded properly, but the big question is whether these proposals can deliver that. We are particularly concerned about the issues of constant interference, centralisation and bureaucracy which are raised."

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President of Bolivia falls foul of old Guevara ally

Fiona Adams
on the woman who wants Banzer (right) in the same spotlight as Pinochet



STANDING a little over 5ft in her woolly hair, 55-year-old Lola Guzmán does not look like the sort of woman to rattle Latin American despots. But she has been the thorn in the side of several Bolivian presidents since she fought in her twenties alongside the Marxist revolutionary Ernesto "Che" Guevara during his ill-fated campaign in the mountains. Her latest target is the current president, General Hugo Banzer, who ruled as dictator from 1971 to 1978. Ms Guzmán has just returned from Madrid, where she met the Spanish judge Baltasar Garçon, who is investigating Augusto Pinochet's role in the disappearances and deaths of Chileans during his rule. She gave evidence of Gen Banzer's role in Operation Condor — a pact between



Protesters in La Paz demonstrate against Chile's Gen Pinochet and President Banzer of Bolivia over human rights abuses

PHOTOGRAPH BY VICTOR RUIZ

neighbouring Latin American countries during the 1970s which aimed to eliminate, kidnap and torture left-wingers, Marxists and terrorists in member states. She holds Gen Banzer and his 1970s government directly responsible for the death or disappearance of almost 200 Bolivians and accuses him of complicity in the arrest of Argentine and Chilean citizens in Bolivia who were deported to their homelands, where they "disappeared". "There were no extradition requests and no trials for these people," she said. "That alone is evidence that Bolivia was part of Operation Condor."

Gen Banzer, who was elected last year with a fifth of the vote, has publicly denied any knowledge of the operation, but the public are not so easily convinced. One headline in the local press this week said: "Come on general, it's impossible that you didn't know."

Fifteen thousand people were arrested illegally and thousands more forced into exile. He once famously declared, after brutally crushing a peasant uprising in the tropics: "I authorise you to kill the first agitator you find. I take full responsibility. If you don't kill them, bring them here so that they can deal with me personally."

It's obvious that he's lying," said Antonio Peredo, a journalist who was imprisoned for two years during the dictatorship. "It's the same as Clinton saying that he didn't have sexual relations with Monica — it will all catch up with him later."

But it is not just Ms Guzmán who is clamouring for justice. Human rights organisations are also demanding that the president pay the price for his earlier actions. "History has judged him already — we know what happened in the 1970s, but that's not enough," said Sacha Llorenti, secretary-general of the country's assembly for human rights. "We want all those responsible for human rights violations to be punished."

Order to jail general pushes Paraguay towards political crisis

Phil Gussone, Latin America Correspondent

A CONSTITUTIONAL crisis loomed in Paraguay yesterday after the supreme court ordered that the former army commander General Lino Oviedo must return to jail to serve a 10-year sentence for his 1996 coup attempt. President Raúl Cubas, who released Gen Oviedo in

August, faces a tough choice. If he refuses to send his political ally back to jail, he risks impeachment by congress and even prosecution for "assisting the escape of a convict". Gen Oviedo, the ruling Colorado Party's presidential candidate, was jailed in March by a military tribunal set up by Juan Carlos Wasmosy, then president, whom he allegedly sought to oust in 1996.

Mr Cubas, his vice-presidential running-mate, assumed the candidacy and won the elections in May. Three days after taking office he freed Gen Oviedo by decree, then convened a fresh tribunal which revoked the sentence. On Wednesday, after a five-hour debate, the supreme court ruled by five votes to four that the general's release was unconstitutional. As commander in

chief Mr Cubas is obliged, according to the court, to send military police to arrest his political mentor, who is believed to be at his home in Asunción. The president's initial response was surprise, and he declined to say what he would do. "We will first await the report and then we'll see," he said. "I can't say anything if I haven't seen the document."

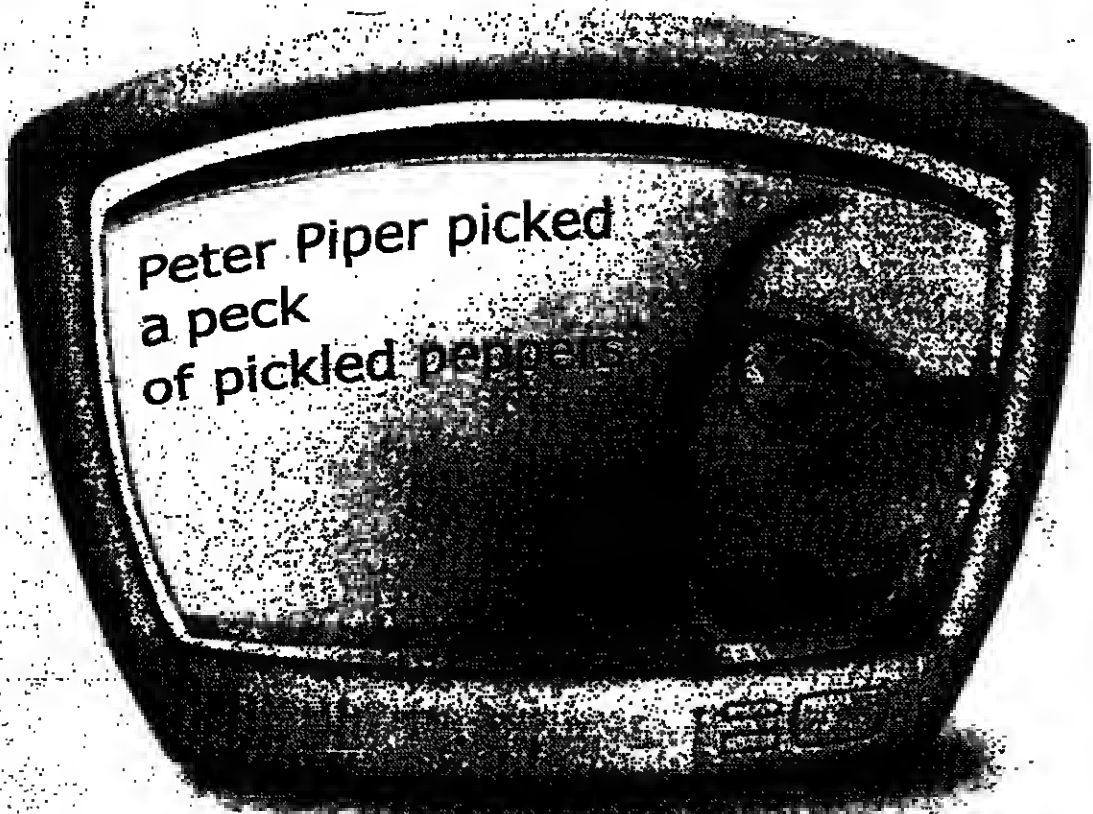
Gen Oviedo's advisers said the ruling was meaningless. "There is no crime, much less a sentence to be served," said Clemente Barrios, a member of his legal team. He said the sentence had been annulled by the second tribunal. Jorge Vasconcellos, legal adviser to congress, said Mr Cubas had to ensure that the sentence was served. If he did not, he could be guilty of assisting the escape of a convict.

Gen Oviedo, hugely popular with the grass roots of the Colorado Party, is currently a candidate for party chairman, and has stated his intention to run for president in 2003. But Wednesday's ruling strips him of his civil and military rights. His opponents in the opposition and his own party dominate congress, which sought the supreme court ruling after his release. Carlos Filizzola, chairman

of the National Encounter party and former vice-presidential candidate for the Democratic Alliance coalition, said the ruling strengthened the democratic process. "This helps give us confidence in the justice system in our country," he told the Asunción newspaper ABC Color. "It marks a milestone in the struggle against impunity."

On Wednesday, neighbouring Macedonia agreed to accept a 1,800-strong force of French-led Nato troops whose task will be to "extract" any OSCE monitors in danger. The OSCE's incoming chairman, the Norwegian foreign minister Knut Vollebæk, said yesterday that Kosovo was the organisation's greatest challenge.

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Analysis Ending dictatorship



Cranborne's
West End farce
12

A kind of liberation

It's never easy to remove military men from power. But why has the process been so difficult in Chile, compared with Argentina and Brazil, asks **Jonathan Steele**.

IT WAS only two months before General Augusto Pinochet (picture below) set off from Santiago on his fateful trip to London. The Chilean Senate, of which he was a self-nominated life member, was split. Should it change the roster of national holidays and the date September 11, the day he launched his coup in 1973? For two decades public bodies had celebrated the day the armed forces had "saved" Chile. Some argued the holiday was too divisive, it was time to move on. For others there was no shame in the coup. Proud though he is, Pinochet's understanding of tactics won out. He voted for abolition. Next year Chileans will celebrate a new annual holiday on the first Monday of September, to be called "Day of National Unity".

Pinochet, in other words, is not a pathetic 83-year-old pensioner; he is still an active player in the political game. There is little truth either in the notion of a "delicate balance" agreed when the army banded power back to the civilians — which Pinochet's extradition and trial in Spain would undermine. The experience of Chile's transition to making the transition from dictatorship to democracy shows that personality plays a significant part in the process of disengagement. It's largely thanks to the energy, drive, and brutality of this man that Chile's transition to democracy has been more difficult than those of its South American neighbours. Argentina and Brazil, though it hasn't been easy there, especially in Argentina where the mothers of the Plaza de Mayo still cry for justice.

All three of the continent's biggest players were ruled by the military at some point in the Sixties and Seventies. Although their coups occurred at the height of the Cold War, they were only loosely related to the rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union. Communist parties in Argentina and Brazil were tiny. In Chile, where the Communists formed part of the Popular Unity government of Salvador Allende which Pinochet overthrew, they were less radical than the Socialist Party. Nor was (Washington's hug-



bear) Fidel Castro much involved. His comrade Che Guevara chose the small landlocked country of Bolivia for his effort to start a guerrilla struggle in 1967. Causes of the crises in Argentina, Brazil and Chile included disputes between the old landed elites and the industrial sector, rapid urbanisation after the second world war, economic arguments over inflation, tariffs and growth, corruption in the established political parties and national unease over the extent of foreign ownership of the export sector whether it was beef, sugar, or copper. The army had intervened at different times during the century and a half since Argentina's and Chile's independence from Spain. In Brazil, which broke from Portugal in 1822 but maintained a monarchy for another 67 years, the army took the decisive role in creating a republic.

Yet nowhere was the re-emergence of a politically active army in the modern era as dramatic as in Chile. "From one of the most democratic and politically-mobilised countries in the world, Chile became one of the most authoritarian," says the Georgian in University professor, Arturo Valenzuela. Pinochet appointed men in uniform to be cabinet ministers, university presidents, ambassadors, mayors, and directors of public companies. Although his decree law number one of September 11 1973 claimed the coup was designed to "restore institutionalism", Pinochet promptly closed down the Congress, the political parties, the trade unions and the free media. Again by contrast, the juntas in power in Argentina and Brazil were never personal dictatorships. The heads of the different services shared authority in Argentina. With the first

three juntas were tried, with five found guilty and four acquitted. When disappointed families of victims called for justice against the lower-level torturers, a series of

juntas giving way in 1980 after four years to another. This was replaced in 1981 by a third junta, led by General Leopoldo Galtieri who launched the Falklands war. In Brazil, the generals succeeded each other in rigid four-year stints as President, almost as though they were constitutionally elected. In Chile when the junta was sworn in in 1973 General Pinochet said: "I have no pretension to direct the country while it lasts. What we will do is rotate." It was a promise he quickly broke.

Each of the three countries suffered. In Argentina over 9,000 people were killed, as the junta launched its "dirty war" against anyone suspected of being subversive, mostly young people with a high proportion of students among them. There were no trials. People simply disappeared. In Brazil with five times the population around 150 died. In Chile the military killed around 3,000.

THE end of military government was most abrupt in Argentina. A plunging economic collapse in the early 1980s as commodity prices fell coincided with the junta's defeat in the Falklands War. After seven years the military lost all public support as well as the stomach to go on. Just as the Greek colonels had done when they suffered a similar national humiliation in losing part of an allied territory, Cyprus, in 1974. The Argentinian military gave themselves an amnesty but the first civilian government quickly overturned it and authorised an inquiry into the military's crimes. Called Never Again (Nunca Mas), the report led to demands for trials of all the guilty. But the new president, Raul Alfonsín, took fright and with the notion of "due obedience" exonerated junior officers who were just obeying orders. Only the top leaders of the three juntas were tried, with five found guilty and four acquitted.

When disappointed families of victims called for justice against the lower-level torturers, a series of

Armed rule in South America



Argentina 1976-83
The military overthrew the elected government, General Galtieri, and launched the Falklands war. The military ruled until 1982, when it was replaced by a civilian government.



Brazil 1964-65
The military overthrew the elected government, General Geisel, and launched the military dictatorship. The military ruled until 1965, when it was replaced by a civilian government.



Paraguay 1954-63
The military overthrew the elected government, General Onganía, and launched the military dictatorship. The military ruled until 1963, when it was replaced by a civilian government.



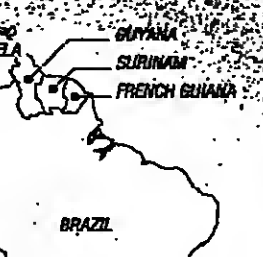
Chile 1973-80
The military overthrew the elected government, General Pinochet, and launched the military dictatorship. The military ruled until 1980, when it was replaced by a civilian government.



Bolivia 1964-82
The military overthrew the elected government, General Onganía, and launched the military dictatorship. The military ruled until 1982, when it was replaced by a civilian government.



Ecuador 1972-73
The military overthrew the elected government, General Geisel, and launched the military dictatorship. The military ruled until 1973, when it was replaced by a civilian government.



Peru 1968-80
The military overthrew the elected government, General Onganía, and launched the military dictatorship. The military ruled until 1980, when it was replaced by a civilian government.



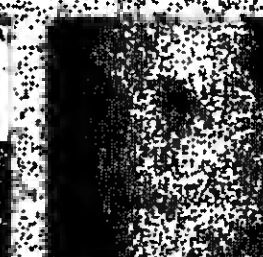
Suriname 1960-87
The military overthrew the elected government, General Geisel, and launched the military dictatorship. The military ruled until 1987, when it was replaced by a civilian government.



Colombia 1953-57
The military overthrew the elected government, General Onganía, and launched the military dictatorship. The military ruled until 1957, when it was replaced by a civilian government.



Uruguay 1973-85
The military overthrew the elected government, General Geisel, and launched the military dictatorship. The military ruled until 1985, when it was replaced by a civilian government.



Venezuela 1954-57
The military overthrew the elected government, General Onganía, and launched the military dictatorship. The military ruled until 1957, when it was replaced by a civilian government.



Other countries
The military overthrew the elected government, General Geisel, and launched the military dictatorship. The military ruled until 1987, when it was replaced by a civilian government.

attempted army uprisings persuaded President Alfonsín to promise no more prosecutions. The so-called Full Stop legislation sanctified what many Argentinians now call a culture of impunity. They point out that amnesty is from the same root as amnesia, and say that successive governments "have used the legal and judicial apparatus of the state to impose a politics of memory which is in fact a politics of forgetting". A new case is under way against one of the junta leaders, Admiral Massera, for abducting babies of people who disappeared.

It's much better than Chile. In Brazil, the military stayed in power the longest, its eventual handover and lifting of political restrictions were so gradual that much of the steam had run out of the movement for justice. The worst torture had taken place in the junta's earliest years and by 1985 when civilians came back to power half a generation had passed. The atmosphere was calmer, more similar to that in Spain when the Franco regime ended almost 40 years after the civil war.

In Chile in the early 1980s when the Argentinian and

Brazilian military were giving up, Pinochet launched new repression. His response to street demonstrations and overt political opposition was harsh. To ensure its safety his regime had passed an amnesty law in 1978 long before there was any hint that it might ever relinquish power. But Pinochet misjudged the mood. In 1988 when he organised a referendum on whether he could stay as President, he was so confident he would win that he never contemplated fiddling the count. Staggered by his defeat (though as many as 43 per cent voted for him),

Socialist Party of the dead Allende did set up a Truth and Reconciliation Commission. For fear of Pinochet and his still-entrenched military establishment, its primary goal was to investigate deaths and disappearances, not to name names of torturers, killers, and those who gave them orders. So strict was this self-denying rule that the report is anonymous on the smallest things. A typical paragraph begins: "The person who served as Minister of Justice when decree law number 2181 was passed has stated: '...'. But the report was scathing on the behaviour of the Chilean courts for not granting requests for habeas corpus when families asked about arrested victims, for accepting confessions made under torture, and for punishing judges who were more forthright in pursuing human rights violations.

Published in 1991, the report helped to shift the goalposts and adjust the balance which Pinochet's defenders claim are immutable. "The realities are always shifting," says Jose Zalaquett, a member of the commission. "The transition since 1990 addressed human rights in an imperfect way, but a reasonable one. Our report revealed the truth. It changed the atmosphere and created new sensitivities. Without the report Contreras couldn't have gone to prison." General Manuel Contreras had headed the notorious intelligence service, DINA, which committed the worst murders, including the assassination of Allende's former Foreign Minister, Orlando Letelier, in Washington. Around another twenty people were tried for offences committed after the 1978 amnesty.

THEN Pinochet shifted the goalposts back. "The process came to a standstill because of his stubbornness," says Zalaquett. "He was wholly unrepentant and uncooperative. He had an image of omnipotence and impunity which is still so pernicious for the armed forces." As for that other element in the "delicate balance" argument, the Chilean army, few believe it would mount a coup to save Pinochet. Though it has taken longer to get there, it is firmly back in barracks just as it is in Brazil and Argentina. A new generation of officers is in charge. "The country is no longer polarised. I don't see any chance of a new coup. Some army extremists could create problems or plant bombs, but that is all," says Zalaquett. It's now very much a personal battle by Pinochet who is backed not so much by the army as the nine other senators appointed to the Senate (around 20 per cent of the membership) who ally with Chile's political right to block change. His absence in Surrey is already a kind of liberation.

Sources: (1) Paul Drake and Ivan Jaksic (eds), *The Struggle for Democracy in Chile*, University of Nebraska Press, 1997, p21, p23; (2) *Encyclopedia Britannica*, *Report on the Americas*, Vol 1000, May/June 1998, NACLA, Washington DC; (3) *Report of the Chilean National Commission on Truth and Reconciliation*, English text published by Notre Dame Law School, Indiana, 1993, p125. Graphics: Paddy Allen; Pinbar Sheehy. Research: Matthew Keating. Jonathan Steele covered Latin America for the Guardian in the early 1980s.

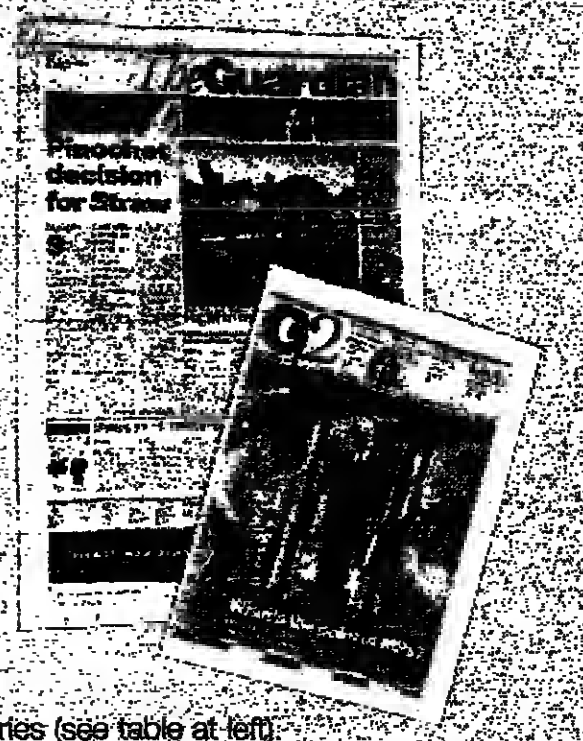
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Christopher Dow

Monetarist sceptic

WITH the death of Christopher Dow, at the age of 82, Britain loses one of its most distinguished post-war economists and public servants. JCR Dow, as he was known to generations of economics and politics students, combined the experience of government with the objectivity of the highest academic standards.

His book *The Management of the British Economy 1945-60* is a seminal work, which shows there is nothing new about economic policies which are intended to stabilise the economy, but which actually exaggerate its fluctuations. One of its lessons is that policymakers need all the tools of economic management available to them — a lesson not always observed in more recent years.

Dow, educated at Bootham School in York, Brighton grammar school and University College, London, was an economic adviser at the Treasury during the Attlee government's 1945-51 period of postwar economic reconstruction, and in the early years of Rab Butler's 1951-55 Conservative chancellorship. In 1954 he moved to what became his "second home", the Independent National Institute of Economic and Social Research (NIERS), which gave him the base to work on his books.

After another spell at the Treasury in 1962-63, he was assistant secretary general at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris for 10 years. These were the years when the OECD was in its prime as the focus for international economic policy coordination, although the feature of the early 1970s was the breakdown of that coordination, and the problems arising from the first oil crisis, and the worldwide outbreak of inflation which hit the UK particularly badly.

As the executive director for economic policy at the Bank of England in 1973-81, Dow was actively involved in policy formulation during those crisis years. He picked out the current Governor Edie George as a rising star, and entrusted him with constructing plans for a reorganised economics division within the Bank.

A consummate "Keynesian," Dow found it painful to



Dow... essential integrity

witness the rise of what became known as "unbelieving monetarism" — the policies the Callaghan government was forced to adopt in response to successive foreign exchange crises — and "believing monetarism" — the policies the Thatcher government willingly adopted: in particular, the latter's obsession with the money supply, and its early belief in leaving the exchange rate entirely to "market forces."

While finding it difficult to conceal his intellectual contempt for monetarism, Dow

He was sufficiently flexible to incorporate the criticisms of Keynesianism

was a skilled, even witty, official, and recognised that the fashionable cult of all those motorway-sounding monetary indicators such as "M3" had to be taken into account. In his capacity as a very close and trusted adviser to Gordon Richardson (the Governor from 1973 to 1983) Dow made judicious use of the prevailing orthodox, while retaining his essential integrity and scepticism. Thus "monetary targets" were something he could live with, even advocate, if it pleased governments, but he believed broader considerations should always prevail.

After leaving the Bank in 1984, Dow returned to the NIERS. He was sufficiently flexible to take on board the fashionable criticisms of Keynesianism and try to incorporate them in his philoso-

phy. In *A Critique of Monetary Policy* (1988, jointly with ID Saville) he argued: "The main aim we see in 'normal' times for monetary policy is to preserve the relative stability of the exchange rate. That alone, without any more ambitious aim, would be a major gain... if inflation more rapid than in our trading partners persists, we argue for a gradual adjustment of the exchange rate to that faster rate." Alas, the exchange rate gyrations and overvaluations of recent years show little head has been paid to such advice.

It is tempting to say that Christopher Dow never stopped worrying about the economy — mercifully he managed to complete his last book *Major Recessions — Britain and the World 1920-95* shortly before his death; but the truth is that Dow was a rounded character with a happy family life and a serious interest in music, the theatre and literature. It was possible — indeed likely — that one could spend an entire evening at the family dinner table without the subject of economics creeping up at all. A table, incidentally, he had built himself during his spare hours as a carpenter.

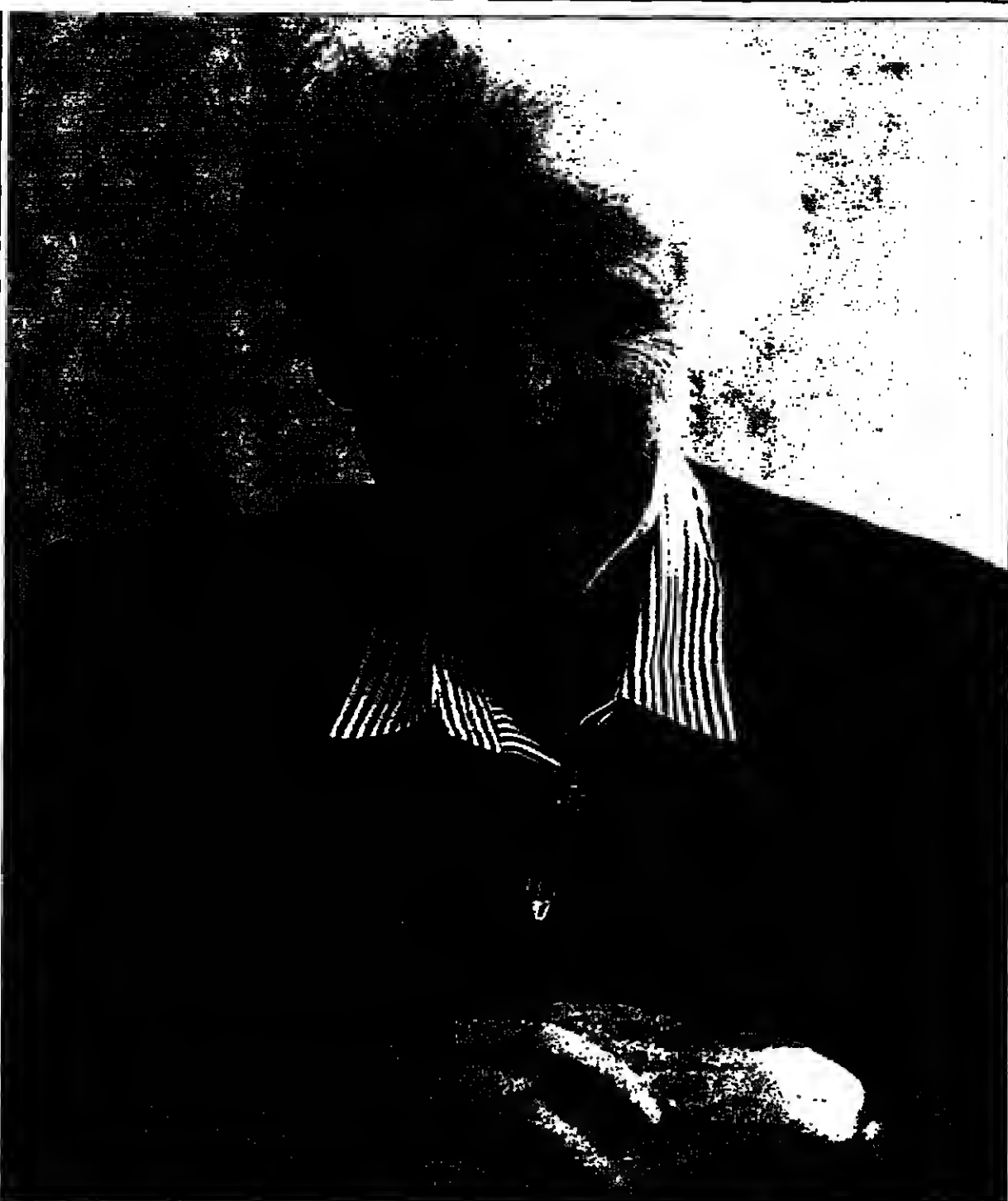
Dow was a modest and wise man whose apparent diffidence sometimes masked his great confidence in his own intellectual position. Only someone of his stature could concede, disarmingly, when asked why he was embarking, for what proved to be his last major task, on a book about recession: "Because I am not sure what causes them."

A shy man, sometimes of few words, Dow surprised his friends somewhat late in life by joining the extrovert and gregarious Garrick Club. For most of his working life, he had used the more traditional Whitehall Reform Club. There was always more to him than met the eye.

He was a staunch Roman Catholic convert. The collapse which led to his death two days later took place at Sunday Mass in Brompton Oratory. He is survived by his wife Clare and their children James, Francesca, Rachel and Julia.

William Keegan

John Christopher Roderick Dow, economist, born February 25, 1916; died December 1, 1998



Dorothy White... an intellectual with a firmness of character which amounted to fierceness. PHOTOGRAPH: GRAHAM TURNER

Dorothy White

Nursing the NHS ideal

HER mother's infirmity was one factor that led Dorothy White, who has died of cancer aged 74, to found the Relatives Association in 1992. She argued that old age, when many people go into residential homes and long-stay hospitals, should be a time residents and relatives come together. Family members

themselves needed support and advice to become partners in the process of residential care and, through the RA, they could influence government policy.

At its birth the RA operated informally, but in 1993 it became a charitable company. Dorothy was very firmly in the chair, leading her band of management committee members, writing the policy documents, securing governmental support, and taking calls from worried relatives, with great empathy. The new organisation was meeting an urgent need.

In 1994 a full-time director was appointed, which took some of the pressure off Dorothy — who had been fighting cancer since 1988. She resigned the chair in 1996 but remained as founder president. Just three weeks ago, gravely ill, she sent her taped observations to the RA's annual conference, expressing her concern about the working of the National Health Service for older people. The commitment to free health care from the cradle to the grave, she said, had been withdrawn.

Dorothy knew about the NHS. For some years post-war she worked as an administrative grade civil servant in the team of Health Minister Aneurin Bevan which set up the service. As a young principal she herself administered policy on old people's homes — and her attachment to NHS ideals was to be lifelong. For more than half a century she contributed to health and education policy-making and administration, beginning at a time when married women were not accepted in the civil service.

She grew up Dorothy Gertrude in Essex, in the Quaker tradition. From St Swithun's school she went on in 1942 to the London School of Economics which had been evacuated to Cambridge. There

she met her future husband John White, then with the 8th Airborne Division. They married shortly after VE Day.

In July 1945 she was drafted into the civil service as a temporary assistant principal, and was heartened by Labour's victory in the general election which she believed would strengthen the prospects of an NHS. It was during that election campaign that I, the Labour candidate for Knutsford, first encountered her.

While with the civil service she became secretary to the Whitley Council dealing with public sector pay. She was

The commitment to free health care from the cradle to the grave, she said, had been withdrawn

also the first Webb Fellow at the LSE, researching consumer aspects of south London maternity services.

After her third son's birth in 1958 White left the civil service. She worked as a youth club leader, taught in a comprehensive school and lectured in management at the North-West London Polytechnic. Back in the civil service in 1966 at the Department of Education and Science, she represented her department on Sir Keith Joseph's working party on the reorganisation of the NHS in the early 1970s and on the Health Education Council. She then became secretary to the Schools Council.

In 1979 she finally left the civil service. She directed the Family Planning Association but after illness, re-focused her attention on the volun-

tary sector. She joined Barnet Voluntary Service Council (and was later awarded an OBE for her work there), chaired statutory and voluntary sector working parties and the Care of the Elderly group on Barnet Community Health Council. She was also a management consultant to the Network Housing Association for residential and nursing home schemes.

She was also accepting the increasing burden of visiting her mother whose nursing home was some distance away. She was drawn into the management of residential homes, and on to the launch of the Relatives Association. In those final observations to the RA conference she pinpointed the need for older people to be financially supported either in their own home or in a care home, and expressed concerns about whether older people were getting a fair share of NHS resources. She would have welcomed the white paper *Modernising Social Services* published four days after her death, giving a clear commitment to some of her objectives, particularly in the quality of life for residents of homes through better inspection systems.

Her eminence in the field was marked by the Social Care Association's Merit Award in 1998 and a Guardian Award in 1997. White was highly intelligent, an intellectual with a firmness of character which amounted to fierceness. But it was that fierceness that gave her the determination and courage to struggle against illness for so long — and achieve so much.

She is survived by her husband and three sons.

Pat Tyler

Dorothy Marian White, public servant, born October 13, 1924; died November 26, 1998

Birthdays

Farhad Afshar, neurosurgeon, 57; Jeff Bridges, actor, 49; Horst Buchholz, actor, 68; Ann Christopher, sculptor, 51; Ronnie Corbett, comedian, 68; Hywel Davies, actor, 42; Deanna Durbin, former actress and singer, 77; Jim Hall, jazz guitarist, composer, 68; Gemma Jones, actress, 58; Richard Meade,

three-day event rider, 60; Yvonne Minton, mezzo-soprano, 60; Prof Lord Morris of Castle Morris, chairman, Prince of Wales's Institute of Architects, 68; Pamela Stephenson, actress, 48.

Death Notices

ELLIS, Elizabeth, of Clifton, Bristol, died on 26th November after a short illness. Widow of John, aged 85. Buried at Clifton Cemetery, Bristol. Funeral on Tuesday 1st December, 11.30am. Flowers/condolences to Mrs. J. Ellis, 20 Clifton Street, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 3DU.

GREEN, Katherine, died peacefully after a long illness, aged 71, at her home in Clifton, U.S.A., on November 18th, 1998. Wife of the late Dr. R. A. Green, who died in 1988. Buried at Clifton Cemetery, Bristol. Funeral on Tuesday 1st December, 11.30am. Flowers/condolences to Mrs. K. Green, 20 Clifton Street, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 3DU.

JOHNSTONE, Esther Marie (Tessa), passed away at Manchester Home, 802, Whitby on 2nd December. Widow of Dr. R. A. Johnstone, who died in 1988. Buried at Clifton Cemetery, Bristol. Funeral on Tuesday 1st December, 11.30am. Flowers/condolences to Mrs. E. Johnstone, 20 Clifton Street, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 3DU.

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

THE WORK of the Turner Prize winner, Chris O'Neil, is not on show at Manchester City Art Gallery (page 3, December 2). It is closed for the next two years. O'Neil's paintings may be seen at the Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester, until January 24, Monday to Saturday 10am to 5pm, Sunday 2pm to 5pm (closed December 23 to January 4).

IN AN article about the singer, Björk (pages 12 and 13, G2, November 30), we wondered why she would choose to wear a T-shirt with the words Sod Off written on it. The answer, a reader suggests, is that the words form the title of one of her songs (to be found on the CD single, Joga).

THE INSTRUMENT played by Lonnie Pitchford (Obituary, page 22, yesterday) is the diddley bow rather than the diddley bow, and Pitchford played it at the Smithsonian Institution, rather than institute.

It is the policy of the Guardian to correct errors as soon as possible. Please quote date and page number. Readers may contact the office of the Readers' Editor by telephoning 0171 235 9329 between 11am and 5pm, Monday to Friday. Surface mail to Readers' Editor, The Guardian, 119, Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER. Fax: 0171 235 9897. E-mail: readers@guardian.co.uk

OBITUARIES 11

Ron Phillips

Anti-racist who stormed a cathedral

RON Phillips, who has died aged 63, was a charismatic political and community activist whose early campaigns exposed the nature and consequences of institutional racism in Britain.

I met him in the 1970s when his home in the Moss Side area of Manchester was the centre of political debate and community organisation. This period saw the growth of black self-help organisations organising around issues such as housing, education and police harassment. Phillips, a powerful orator, became a national figure when he took up the case of David Odumwa, an African student murdered in Leeds.

Phillips was born in Georgetown, Guyana. He went to Queens College, one of a number of schools throughout the Caribbean which groomed the future leadership of their countries. He would have become part of that elite but his father, George, emigrated to England in 1950, and Ron, with his mother Marjorie, joined him in 1952.

After army service he studied civil engineering at Sheffield University and worked in the construction and mining industry as a designer and safety inspector.

By the late 1960s he was in Manchester where he campaigned for the demolition of the giant Hulme housing estate that devastated the social patterns of the multi-racial community of Moss Side.

At the end of the decade he led an invasion of black protesters into Manchester Cathedral. Their aim was to get church property made available for use as a nursery. His tactic was to go up to the Dean of Manchester and call on him to come out of the pulpit.

That fearlessness in the face of authority brought fame but also trouble. Partly as a result of that campaign he broke an injunction: the result was a brief spell in prison. On release he became a rallying point for campaigns about prison reform. Soon after he founded George Jackson House, a self-help hostel which housed homeless black youth, most of whom had come out of the care of local authorities or were recovering from a period of detention. It inspired community projects and helped lay the foundations for modern black community organisation in Britain.

In the late 1970s he returned to Guyana. He then went to the United States where he resumed his career as an engineer and was a member of faculty of Delaware State University. He retired earlier this year and suffered a heart attack a few months later.

Phillips, who had two brothers, Mike and Trevor, leaves behind five children by his first marriage, and his widow, Beverley.

Valerie Amos

Ivor Ronald Phillips, black persons activist, born October 26, 1935; died October 31, 1998

A Country Diary

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: An abandoned livestock market — rusting sheep pens, creaking iron gates on the stoutly constructed enclosures designed for cattle, and the closed and bolted cream-painted auctioneer's offices — lies at the foot of Gurnstone Hill, only a short walk from our new home in Tetbury.

Livestock auctioneers always amused me as figures of Boris countenance and unbounded confidence, with a uniform of tweed, cavalry twill, Tattersall check and a brown trilby. We bought and sold at auction over the years and knew record high — and low — prices.

Since medieval theologians proved to their own satisfaction that the beasts of the field have no souls it is not the ghosts of the animals I think of when we walk past the abandoned market — but I can imagine the lowing of cattle, the nervous bleating of sheep, and the rolling chant of the auctioneer.

COLIN LUCKHURST

online

Every Thursday in the

EUROPE
The Guardian

Comment

Diary

Simon Bowers

UNBEKNOWN to some, the liberty of the British press was in peril last Friday at a Gillingham service station in Kent. Having received a tip-off from a lorry driver who suspected he had unwittingly picked up some illegal immigrants in Calais, Kent police were dispatched to intercept the London-bound vehicle at the M2 services. Inside, however, officers were surprised to find not just nine suspected foreigners but also two persons sheepishly claiming to be members of Her Majesty's Press. Their story was confirmed by three News of the World colleagues who had been tailing the lorry, but sadly this was not enough to dissuade officers that a period at Her Majesty's pleasure was appropriate. Indeed, suspects, journalists and the driver all enjoyed the hospitality of Kent police last Friday. But with no proof that the hacks entered the lorry in Calais (which would have constituted a criminal act) the Fleet Street Five are now, thankfully, at liberty.

PAUL Johnson and the Prime Minister, it is said, have long since enjoyed a mutual admiration. The framed fan letter from Mr Tony which hangs in Paul's house is now, of course, legendary. Nevertheless, Mr T suffers a dressing down at the hands of the Spectator columnist this week over the issue of Pinochet's extradition. Paul reveals how he put it to the PM straight, at a recent face-to-face meeting: "He came here as a sick man and guest and you betrayed the most elementary principles of hospitality. How could you do it? Meekly, Mr Tony responds: 'I was told that unless I allowed the case to proceed I would be in breach of the extradition treaty.' Legal claptrap, says Paul. Correct procedure would have been to consult Baroness Thatcher before informing the Queen that Pinochet was free to fly home. Had this been done, inside Paul, Mr Tony would now have the enthusiastic backing of all parties in the Commons. "There is nothing lawyers like more," he counsels, "than the chance to 'collect huge fees ultimately funded by the taxpayers'. And was Mr Tony really listening? I could see he took it in," says Paul, "and I hope he will apply it in future." As do we, Jonners. It would be a foolish and naughty PM who did not.

ON the subject of naughty boys, an Illinois teacher is being prosecuted after admitting that he disciplined his pupils with electric shocks. Philip Rusb, reports FHM magazine, instructed naughty children (steady now Paul) to hold a sparking plug in one hand and a metal wire attached to an electric generator in the other. In his defence Rusb points out that this is also an excellent way "for a student to learn how a motor generates a charge".

COMMISERATIONS to Eric Forth, MP for Bromley and Chislehurst, who didn't make the top 20 on the ballot for private members' bills yesterday, despite nominating himself as a hopeful. Eric, you recall, likes to wreck all private members' bills as Christmas card. Four-year-old Emma Keywood's picture of a horn-blowing angel, "conveys a softer side to the 'Prudent Chancellor'", said Professor Tim Wheeler from University College Chester. Conversely, Downing Street's card - featuring a deserted road - was thought "remote, impersonal and seriously off-message". Remarks commentators are already suggesting could be as damaging to the Blair-Brown axis as Paul Routledge's biography of Gordon. Meanwhile, asked what cards they would be sending this year, Conservative Central Office said, "For goodness sake, we have got more important things to do." And haven't they just.

Q: HOW MANY HEREDITARY PEERS DOES IT TAKE TO SCREW IN A LIGHTBULB?



Hague stumbles into a West End farce and Cranborne exits right

Lords row (I)

Decca Aitkenhead



ANYONE who has ever wondered what the House of Lords was for, must now have their answer. As West End farce goes, it is better than average, and if the House is looking for a formal new role in British life, it might do well to consider a career in light entertainment. This week's plot has become quite difficult to follow. William Hague championed the will of the Commons over the Lords by sacking his party leader in the Lords - for, or, agreeing to prevent the Lords opposing the will of Commons over the abolition of the powers of hereditary peers. Tony Blair championed the will of the Commons by doing a deal which would preserve the voting rights of hereditary peers - a "democratic monstrosity" for up to five years, even though the Commons had the power to get rid of them at once. Tony peers were primed to gloat over their coup when they suddenly found themselves writing resignation letters and receiving the sack.

Such absurdism! Such outrageous drama! As observers think the drama is over, some are now tempted to draw similarly dramatic conclusions. Jeremy Paxman has been wagging his eyebrows in an agitation-crisis fashion; some MPs have predicted the final demise of the Tory party; all are expressing scandalised shock. Like most audiences of farce, they have worked themselves into a pleasing state of over-excitement. The affair is funny, but there's nothing especially scandalous about it, and even less that it is particularly surprising. The deal which has

ended up causing the Tories so much trouble was a perfectly good one. Lord Cranborne put it quite nicely himself: "Of course the Government was always going to win a knock down battle with the House of Lords... and quite right too." If he was never going to save the hereditary peers, saving 100 for a few more years was better than nothing - particularly if he happened to number among that 100. If Labour could be made to look shifty in the process, so much the better.

It is obviously a good offer, or Hague would not have been forced into the eccentric position of having to endorse it himself the next day. Cranborne's crime was to sell off, in return, the right to oppose the next stage of reform. But what did that right amount to? Not much more than the right to make the Tory party look even more absurd for a few more years. An allegedly revamped Conservative party, led by a man born in the 1940s, cannot hope to make the House of Lords its defining millennial cause without calling into question its modernity, if not its sanity.

The deal made just as much sense for Labour. They'd get everything they wanted for the modest price of 100 peers voting for a few more years. As these peers have already been voting for several centuries, this is a hardship most of us could probably endure. The House of Lords is one of our priorities; if reform was won at the expense of parliamentary time for more urgent affairs, even Labour supporters might start to wonder if it was worth it. The deal with Cranborne would have defused this one danger. There is an unconvincing

suspension of disbelief about members of both Houses affecting shock at the revelation of a deal. Like members of an audience shouting "He's behind you!", they are colluding in an elaborate pretence. Of course they know that party leaders do deals all the time, and would expect nothing less of them. What makes the week's events so important is not the surprise element at all, but rather, the extent to which they serve to confirm things we already knew.

Things like, for example, that William Hague is not a very clever leader of the Conservative party. Had he had the sense to agree to the deal when it was first presented, he could have made as much capital from the supposed U-turn as the Tory spin machine at present. This might not have amounted to much, but it would have been an easier task than the one the hapless Central office is now facing.

That Hague should think it wise to make the House of Lords his cause célèbre as a proof of his political judgement as we are likely to get. It was John Major who first sold himself as defender of the constitution against new Labour's reforms; the strategy did little for him, and it is hard to see why it would serve his successor any better. His party can hardly argue, as it has tried, that Blair

Greedy, ruthless sales pitches will ruin many Christmases

Rip-off of the children

George Monbiot



AT THIS time of year I'm always relieved I don't have children. The parents I see wandering the shopping malls in the hope of purchasing some peace and quiet have the faces of the condemned. They know they can buy respite but not satisfaction, for the staggering turnover of fads in Britain, driven by the most predatory children's advertising in Europe, means that Christmas has become a trade in disappointment.

British children are exposed to more adverts than any others in the EU - an average of 17 per hour on children's TV. Last year, advertisers spent £150 million selling toys and games - six times more than in 1992. And this is only the beginning. Last week, the big advertising agency McCann Erickson launched a new children's division, doubtless in order to compete with Saatchi and Saatchi, who launched theirs at the beginning of the year.

Billboards are appearing in school corridors and playgrounds. Company logos are turning up on uniforms. Excise fad will provide free e-mail accounts for all school children, recouping its costs through on-screen advertising. While the Government seems to believe it has a duty to interfere in every other area of school life, when it comes to advertising, it refuses to intervene. Schools and their governors are left to interpret the National Consumer Council guidelines and negotiate with the most determined salespeople in Britain, without help or guidance from the Department for Education.

PITIED against five marketing executives in a radio discussion last week, I was told that advertising helps parents, because it encourages children to become more discerning consumers. Children, they informed me, know how much money their parents have and won't make inordinate demands. If parents aren't tough enough to stand up to them, they must be pretty pathetic.

I don't suppose it's too hard to stand up to your children if you're an advertising executive, as the money you make from exploiting other people's kids means that you don't often have to say no to your own. But for the impoverished parents I know, Christmas means conflict as their children beg, scream and sulk for the overpriced trash dangled

beyond their reach 17 times an hour. The parents know that Christmas will be miserable, because instead of Furbies and All Saints dolls, their children will have to make do with last year's crazes. They know that their children will be made to feel like second-class citizens when they arrive in the playground on the first day of the spring term, still wearing the old football strip.

Children's advertising is the marketing of insecurity, a mission to generate self-consciousness among the only group of people who have, hitherto, been free from it. A recent ad by Kellogg's, which attracted a rare condemnation from the Advertising Standards Authority (ASA), claimed that eating its cereal could make children less susceptible to bullying, as it could help them to lose weight. Parents complained that fat children, identified by the ad as a target, are now more likely to be bullied.

The Independent Television Commission's code on advertising to children could scarcely be clearer. "No method of advertising," it insists, "may be employed which takes advantage of the natural credulity and sense of loyalty of children." "Advertisements must not exhort children to purchase" or "ask their parents or others to make enquiries or purchases". "No advertisement may lead children to believe that if they do not have or use the product or service advertised they will be inferior... or liable to contempt or ridicule." Were the rules applied, it's hard to see how any advert would slip through the net. But both the ITC and the ASA are understaffed and reluctant to use their limited powers. Both authorities, for example, ban the encouragement of "pester

They beg for the overpriced trash dangled beyond their reach

power", but, according to Marketing Week, this ban of all parents, much of it driven by advertising, is worth \$2.4 billion a year in Britain. Whenever anyone calls for more controls, however, Government ministers rush to reassure the industry that "self-regulation" is the best way forward.

Civilised countries have no truck with such nonsense. Sweden, Norway, Belgium and Austria all ban advertising during children's television programmes. When the Swedes assume the EU presidency in 2001, they will attempt to defend harassed parents throughout the union, by introducing new restrictions on children's advertising. The Advertisers' Association is already lobbying to stop them. Thanks to its members, Father Christmas has become an enemy of the people.

Robert Cranborne knows exactly what he wanted, as I do. Our great-grandfathers talked together of Lords reform in the 1880s

Blue genes

Lords row (II)

Lord Onslow



MY FAMILY has been in Parliament from Lancastrian times. We had a Speaker in the reign of Queen Elizabeth who supported Cromwell with a regiment of parliamentary cavalry; we survived the restoration; we prospered as Whigs in the 18th century

supporting the Hanoverian succession. And after the Act of Union we became Earls and Tories.

In the 18th century, the greatest Speaker the House of Commons has ever had was called Sir Arthur Onslow. My great-grandfather was the first minister of agriculture. Both my father and grandfather were ministers. So the Onslow parliamentary tradition is long and deep. I see my final duty after 500 years in parliament as to try and make sure that what comes after us is a much improved House of Lords.

Peccul (I have sinned) said General Napier in 1843 after he annexed Schinde in India against express orders. Whether the recent arrangement with the Government by our former party leader in the Lords, Robert Cranborne, was direct disobedience or only enthusiastic intervention is not relevant.

Sometimes, as with Napier in Schinde, (or Nelson at Copenhagen in 1801) subordinates go beyond their instructions. Churchill almost certainly did, although I cannot recall an example.

Surely what Mr Hague should have done was to have given Lord Cranborne a rocket - and then taken credit for the concession that the Government has undoubtedly made. After all, Cranborne has been as sure as the House of Lords and Napier. Instead, Hague let Mr Blair rubbish him and appeared incompetent and petulant.

What is relevant is that I believe Wednesday's events have not only made a properly reformed House of Lords more likely, but brought it nearer. Labour's leader in the Lords, Lady Jay, said on TV, on Panorama and the next morning on breakfast television, that this would be possible by the

next election. There is of course one way of guaranteeing a timetable. To bring about stage two of Lords reform there would be what Lord Alexander of Weedon calls a sunset clause. That is a clause which would set a limit on the time of the stage one bill (the one which abolishes the hereditaries). So if after that time no stage two (the new second chamber) had been created, then all those Earls and Marquesses of ancient lineage would come trooping back through the Gothic portals.

The Government, under threat from us hooligans, has made a great concession on stage one. Now I hope they will not deny us a sunset clause because the hooligans are not gone yet.

Part of the sadness of this upheaval has been that the Tory party in the House of Commons did not know what it wanted of a reformed House. Robert Cranborne

did. He knows exactly what he wanted, as I do. Our great-grandfathers talked together of Lords reform in the 1880s.

He wanted a House of Lords that had the legitimacy to check both Conservative or Labour governments. I do not think Mr Hague wanted that.

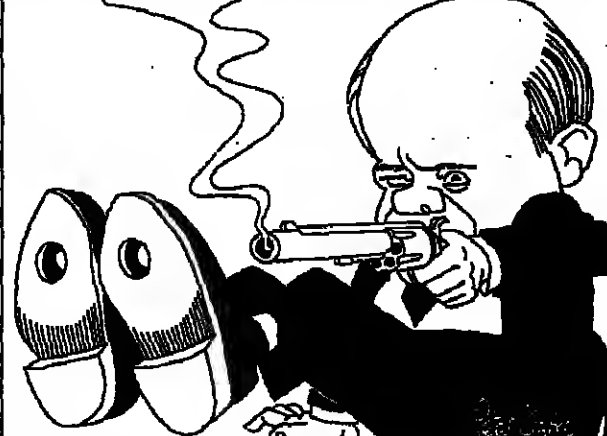
The meeting of the Conservative peers on Wednesday afternoon was solidly behind Lord Cranborne. It is not right to say in detail what went on in the meeting. But suffice it to say that

Cranborne was supported by all who spoke - from Lord Carrington to Lord Alexander.

I know of no hereditary peer who would go to the stake for the hereditaries; but most would do so for the sake of proper reform. I feel that there was an inter-house culture clash over this affair. The Lords' instincts are for politeness and to seek agreement. In the Commons there is a greater sense of adversarial behaviour.

On this occasion the Lords' combination of a threat of hooliganism and a willingness to listen produced an improvement in the proposals. That improvement has far to go but it now looks possible - if not probable - that we will get a properly reformed second chamber. That was not so at this time last week.

Michael Onslow is the 7th Earl of Onslow



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Finance Guardian

Cost of borrowing down to 3pc



Hans Tietmeyer, head of the Bundesbank, announces the co-ordinated cut in interest rates yesterday

Europe's banks cut rates

Charlotte Denny

EUROPE'S central bankers yesterday ended months of complacency over the likely threat to the European economy from the global financial crisis when they announced a co-ordinated cut in interest rates, designed to boost growth and jobs across the continent.

The German Bundesbank and the Bank of France led the way, cutting the cost of borrowing to 3 per cent in a move followed by all the coun-

tries planning to join the European single currency. The reduction in the cost of borrowing is designed to smooth the path for the introduction of the euro in three weeks time, according to Bundesbank head, Hans Tietmeyer.

The interest rate cuts stunned the markets and caused a rally in stocks in bourses from Milan to Frankfurt. The German mark dipped against the pound and the dollar as investors revised their estimates for growth in the euro area.

Yesterday's move comes less than two months after the President of the European Central Bank, Wim Duisenberg, declared there was no need for EMU members to cut the cost of borrowing and that Europe would remain "an oasis of peace" during the current global economic crisis.

The Bank of England has cut interest rates twice in reaction to the worsening international economic situation. The US Federal Reserve has similarly slashed rates. Announcing the U-turn, Mr Tietmeyer said they had acted

Notebook

Rate cut signals new era for Europe



Alex Brummer

THE markets were not sure whether to laugh or cry yesterday. Clearly the unexpected Euro-land interest rate cut — the first of a new era for the world economy — is a clear demonstration that the leaders of the new Europe including, until now, the inflexible central bankers, are determined that the new currency does not face the strains of severe slowdown and rising unemployment.

performance given that banks around the world, including those in the UK, are having a torrid time this year.

But RBS is not like the other banks. Although the greater part of the earnings come from UK banking, it is the niche businesses which are interesting to monitor. Some of these have done extremely well: higher premiums have restored the profitability of Direct Line, the pioneer in the direct selling of financial services businesses.

So what are the downsides? The biggest has been RBS's attachment to the crony capitalism of Silvio Berlusconi, the main reason for the \$154 million provision against Far East lending — and the trouble may not be over yet. The other difficult area in 1998 is new retail financial services — basically retail banking for supermarket groups such as Tesco — which grabbed \$52 million in the year to September 30 1998. This is, however, a shrewd investment in a new future which the London-based clearers have rejected.

There are clearly vulnerabilities at the Royal Bank. But overall, its fleet-of-foot management looks capable of almost anything as the British financial services sector goes into merger and takeover overdrive.

GEC frustrations

GIVEN the circumstances in some of its key European markets, GEC's premier industrial electronics group, held up well in the first half. At the operating level — most relevant given the Alstom sale — profits were 21 per cent up at \$358 million. Moreover, the order book actually managed to put on 15 per cent at \$11.3 billion.

After the successful sell-off of Alstom (which brought in some \$965 million of cash), the buy-in of the Siemens stake in GPT and the Tracor purchase in the US, GEC is becoming a very different company. The emphasis is much more on software, both in telecoms and defence industries. The drive for hardware and the need for platforms — which drove Lord Weinstock's last big takeover of VSEL — is no longer the same priority.

His successor, Lord Simpson, is looking in several directions. In the UK, European defence electronics groups, possible future ventures in North America and transforming itself into a major telecoms group — with Alcatel in its sights. All are difficult, however.

Hence, the new focus on research and development, 24 per cent at \$230 million in the first half and on building the software engineering side of the business. When the acquisitions come up, there is more than enough booty but development can be no bad thing either.

Royal banquet

THE Royal Bank of Scotland has achieved something of a landmark with profits passing through the \$1 billion mark for the first time. This is an impressive

GUS and Bass add voices to the retail chorus of gloom

Roger Cowe

THE plunge in consumer confidence was confirmed yesterday by mail-order leader GUS and the brewing and hotels group, Bass. Both said that customer spending had suddenly slumped over the past two months, and warned of tough conditions in all of their UK businesses.

should have helped sales of winter clothing ranges.

Bass confirmed that consumer reluctance to spend applied to drinks as well as clothing and other high-street goods. The group said beer sales in its pubs and through supermarkets were "volatile" but on average lower than last year. Take-home sales had been particularly depressed.

Sir Ian Prosser, the Bass chairman, said September had been better than expected but October and November had seen sales slipping behind last year's level. The same trend had emerged in the hotel business, where bookings in the group's Holiday Inn chains had fallen in the UK, unlike elsewhere in Europe and in the US.

Bass reported a leap in profit for the year to September to \$391 million but the figures were boosted by exceptional profits and the acquisition of the Inter-Continental chain. Underlying profits were 7 per cent lower than last year. Brewing profits were down by almost 11 per cent while the Britvic soft drink arm suffered a 28 per cent fall in profit.

Sir Ian said that the group's hotels in Asia had suffered from the region's economic slump, with profits almost eliminated. But the Asian turmoil did not appear to have affected hotel bookings in Europe and the US, where the bulk of the hotels are situated.

Brazil stock market falls by 10pc

Larry Elliott and Jonathan Watts in Tokyo

SHARES on the Brazilian stock exchange crashed by almost 10 per cent yesterday after the Cardoso government failed to push the first phase of an IMF-inspired austerity package through parliament, reigniting fears of a crisis in the world's ninth biggest economy.

News that Brazil's lower house had blocked \$2.8 billion of social security cuts to trim the country's \$84 billion budget deficit set nerves jangling on Wall Street as dealers weighed up the chances of a fight of capital leading to an enforced devaluation in the new year.

Brazil's economy is already contracting at an annual rate of 6 per cent even without these problems. "If Brazil can't show that it will deal with its fiscal problems, the perception of the country's risk won't diminish," said Angelo Romano, who helps manage \$450 million in assets at Liberal Asset Management in Rio de Janeiro.

and that the Japanese economy would gradually hum itself out of its worst recession since the second world war. However, figures released yesterday showed few signs of the world's second biggest economy turning the corner. Japan's economy shrank by 0.7 per cent in the three months to September, the fourth successive quarterly decline.

With consumers refusing to spend and corporations scaling back investment, Japan's gross domestic product was 3.6 per cent lower in the third quarter than in the same period a year earlier. Taiichi Sakaiya, head of the Economic Planning Agency, said it would now be difficult for the government to meet its forecast of a 1.8 per cent contraction during the current fiscal year. "It's hard

to say [the economy] has hit bottom and is rebounding, but I have the sense it's crawling along the bottom," he said. Analysts said the latest GDP data gave no cause for optimism. "This fits in with the pattern of a deepening recession," said Colin Calderwood, of Jardine Fleming Securities Asia. "If there is light at the end of the tunnel, you have to squint very hard to see it."

Price-cutting and falling sales have caused profits to plunge at most Japanese companies, and driven many of the largest into the red. Hitachi, Japan's largest electronics manufacturer, Mitsubishi Motors, the nation's fourth-largest automaker, and all four of Japan's biggest steelmakers posted losses for the half year ended September 30.

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Financial leaders overtaken by events

Mark Atkinson and Charlotte Denny find the policymakers have not done enough

YESTERDAY was the day when world financial leaders were given a rude reminder that "events, events," in Harold Macmillan's phrase, could yet spoil their carefully hatched plan to steer the global economy off the rocks.

In a wave of gloom around the globe, it emerged that Japanese GDP has contracted for the fourth successive quarter — the worst performance ever for the world's second largest economy. Meanwhile in Brazil, the first stage of the IMF-inspired austerity plan — the price the country agreed to in exchange for a \$41 billion rescue operation to shore up its faltering currency — failed to pass through Congress.

Boeing announced it was cutting 48,000 jobs worldwide in response to orders from Asia drying up, while the World Bank estimated that 1.2 billion people in the developing world would suffer a drop in living standards as a result of this year's economic turmoil.

All in all, recent events must rather dent the optimism of policymakers in the industrialised world who thought that a steady as she goes course could steer the world economy off the rocks.

Since the crisis began in Thailand last September, the West's response has been that more of the usual medicine is all the world needs to avert a crisis. Japan has continued to throw money at its nervous consumers. Brazil signed up to the usual IMF fiscal austerity package when it accepted its financial bailout and central banks around the world have behaved as if half percentage point cuts to interest rates will slow down the financial contagion.

But the reality is that policy makers throughout the Group of Seven indus-

trialised countries have been shortsighted, complacent and too slow to react to events while their prescriptions have been too little too late and too wrong.

Europe has done too little to avoid a slowdown next year, in a region where the upswing in the economic cycle has been unable to bring unemployment down below 11 per cent. Japan has tried a classic Keynesian boost to consumption too late — local consumers no longer believe that the government's tax cuts will be permanent and instead of spending the money the world's largest savers are busy squirrelling away their latest gains under the mattress.

EC C
500
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Barclays boss
affected again

HS
Wall Street

Interest rate
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GEC cuts 1,500 jobs in shake-up

David Gow
Industrial Editor

GEC drove forward its strategic reshaping under chief executive Lord Simpson yesterday by announcing 1,500 job losses in low-tech areas of its telecoms and defence electronics business.

The job cuts, 1,000 at Marconi Communications and 500 at Marconi Electronics, came as Lord Simpson disclosed that GEC is weeks away from finding a partner to expand its defence interests.

Dagenham and Chelmsford, both in Essex, are to take the brunt of the job cuts at Marconi Communications, with 260 to go at Dagenham from the closure of a cable unit, TOL. Chelmsford is to lose 220 posts, with further cuts in Birmingham and Wavertree, Liverpool and other plants.

They come in the wake of the fusion of GPT, the UK telecoms arm fully taken over by GEC, after it bought out Siemens' 40 per cent stake for £700 million earlier this year, with its Italian arm, Marconi.

But the group's decision to reshape itself as a "hi-tech, high-margin" company that wants to move up the "technological ladder" has led it to cut a further 500 posts at Marconi Electronics.

Lord Simpson said that, overall, GEC would lose a net 2,000 posts this year. It would recruit 6,000 skilled employees, mainly software and systems engineers, while shedding 8,000 lower-skilled jobs.

His comments about finally finding a defence partner raised immediate speculation that GEC could be on the verge of a deal with Alcatel, the French telecoms group which has a 16 per cent stake in Thomson-CSF, the defence

electronics firm long courted by Lord Simpson.

GEC's chief executive said the Alcatel option, first revealed in the Guardian, was one of four or five "soon" to be decided upon by the board. But he pooh-poohed reports of a £30 billion merger. "We have discussed options with them," he said, "insisting there was no question of swapping GEC's telecoms business for Thomson."

But Lord Simpson appeared to swerve away from a European option by saying that the Pentagon, the US defence department, remained "very, very paranoid" about the French, and 40 per cent of GEC's defence sales were in North America following its acquisition of the Texas defence electronics firm Tracor earlier this year.

Analysis suggested that GEC could have reactivated its interest in acquiring at least parts of Northrop Grumman after the collapse of its takeover by bigger US defence firm Lockheed Martin.

Lord Simpson confirmed that he remains in discussions about a merger option with Sir Richard Evans, British Aerospace chairman, but admitted that this has been clouded by BAe's obvious determination to team up with its German equivalent, Dasa, part of DaimlerChrysler.

These tantalising options and evidence that the group had retained its financial firepower despite a spate of acquisitions and disposals were enough to drive GEC's shares 54p up to 505p.

The price was also boosted by half-year profits which, after exceptional items, were up 21 per cent at £388 million. Underlying earnings per share rose 14 per cent to 11.4p.

Last orders for royal cafe



A CHAIN of London burger bars co-founded by two members of the Royal family has had its chips.

Deale's, backed by Lord Linley (above) and Lord Lichfield, is up for sale after running up losses of more than £250,000 last year, writes Julia Finch.

The demise of Deale's

comes as several upmarket burger joints that trade on the names of famous founders are floundering.

London's Fashion Cafe, backed by supermodels Claudia Schiffer, Naomi Campbell and Elle MacPherson, went into receivership in September and Planet Hollywood, fronted by

Sylvester Stallone, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Bruce Willis, recently announced a £24 million loss.

Deale's was founded in 1988 by Viscount Linley, son of Princess Margaret, Lord Lichfield, the Queen's cousin, and businessman Eddie Linn.

It was the first time the

Royal family had ventured into "trade". While the founders attempted to play down their connections, the restaurant undoubtedly benefited from the publicity from their involvement.

It once attracted a stream of glamorous sitters and the Queen Mother even hosted a party at a branch of Deale's.

But in three of the last four years it has run up losses. Lord Linley resigned as a director earlier this year but retains a substantial shareholding.

Yesterday a spokesman said the shareholders hoped to sell the business to a large restaurant group.

PHOTOGRAPH BY REX

News in brief

Siemens gets impatient

SIEMENS president and chief executive Heinrich von Pierer warned yesterday that time was running out for the company's North Tyneside semiconductor plant.

He confirmed that Siemens had talked to several potential buyers and was still in negotiations with a Chinese telecommunications company. There was no deadline for a deal, but "the clock is ticking. We are winding up production." — Mark Mithen in Munich

Power firm fined £1m

SOUTHERN Electric's 2.6 million customers are to get lower bills after the industry regulator, Oftec, fined the company a further £1 million for failing to open its market to competitors on time.

Southern is not likely to open its market until the end of January and has already been fined for failing to meet the original April deadline imposed by the regulator. — David Gow

Royal Bank's £1bn record

ROYAL Bank of Scotland reported record profits of just over £1 billion yesterday, the highest ever achieved by a Scottish company and its share price jumped 62p to 525p, despite an exceptional charge of £146 million to cover bad loans in Asia. It lost £48 million on new business with Tesco and Virgin One mortgages but profits at its Direct Line insurance arm increased to £54 million.

Creditors 'lose £10m a year'

BCCI depositors yesterday claimed they were losing £10 million of interest a year because of investment constraints imposed by the 1986 Insolvency Act, which pays creditors only 3.5 per cent per year.

They also called for the Government to release the full report by Lord Bingham into the collapse of the bank.

Profits flag at condom firm

SHARES in London International Group plunged 31 per cent to 130p yesterday after the company, the world's largest maker of condoms, announced a £3.8 million loss for the six months to September 30 and warned that full-year profits were unlikely to reach last year's level.

Italian pay TV deal fails

NEWS Corp said yesterday that it and Telecom Italia SpA have abandoned their plans to enter the Italian pay television market together. The company is to go ahead independently although it will continue talks with Telecom Italia. — Exel

Barclays boardroom buffeted again

Jill Treanor

BARCLAYS suffered more boardroom upheaval yesterday as Halifax's new chief executive, restructured his senior management team.

Sir Andrew Large, who is thought to have been locked in a boardroom duel at Barclays with former chief executive Martin Taylor, is to be stripped of his executive responsibilities. From next month he will become a non-executive director and remain as deputy chairman.

In the process, Sir Andrew becomes the bank's senior non-executive director, a role held until now by Sir Nigel Mobbs.

Sir Andrew is thought to

have been unhappy with this position on the board and in the other of the bank's senior executive when he tried to carve out a meaningful role for himself.

He was quoted earlier this week as saying: "I thought I would be more effective if I became non-executive and put that in train a month or two back."

City sources said the decision to remove Sir Andrew's executive role may help to calm investors who had been concerned that the bank's board structure raised corporate governance issues.

James Crosby ousted John Miller as director of housing and technology.

Reed and Border afflicted by media malaise

Chris Harris, Media Business Correspondent

THE slowdown in the economy exacted a high price from the media industry yesterday when publishing group Reed Elsevier issued a profits warning while Border Television indicated

that advertising revenues were falling off.

Shares in Reed Elsevier plunged to a new low for the year following the group's forecast of a 6 per cent fall in profits. Border TV said the revenue drought was affecting other broadcasters.

Reed said trading condi-

tions were proving "more difficult" than expected at the half-year results in August.

Underlying pre-tax profits for the year were expected to fall to £770 million due to lower net income from travel publishing and the need to maintain heavy investment in electronic publishing.

Mark Armour, chief financial officer, said that all factors affecting the business had been disclosed at the half-year announcement.

However, some adverse factors were more pronounced than expected. He declined to comment on the possibility of job cuts or closures. The

shares ended 10.5p down at 443p.

Border managing director Peter Brownlow said TV revenues had risen 12 per cent a year on year, but a recently had slowed to 5 per cent. The company turned in half-year pre-tax profits of £180,000 on turnover of £9.5 million.

Code of practice ordered to clean up biotech industry's tarnished image

Julia Finch

THE Government has ordered the biotech industry to clean up its reputation with a new system of self-regulation, after a series of high-profile scandals and upheavals.

A Code of Practice aims to ensure the UK's drug development groups do not make exaggerated claims for compounds they are working on.

The intervention is a response to the House of Commons Science and Technology Select Committee report on

the scandal at British Biotech, the UK's flagship drug development company earlier this year. The Government said it now planned to keep a "close watch" on the sector.

The job of ensuring standards are met goes to the Biotechnology Association.

Two years ago the biotech industry was a stockmarket favourite. But few firms have delivered and some have spectacularly fallen from grace.

The Government said the UK had established a "clear lead" in the biotech business — but companies must meet "the

highest possible standards of objectivity and balance" when they report their progress. British Biotech's image was wrecked when a former employee, Dr Andrew Millar, told investors that two of the company's key drugs were unlikely to prove effective.

HSBC
Midland Private Banking

Interest rates for Midland Private Banking customers

With effect from 3 December 1998

	Gross %	Previous Gross %	Net %	Previous Net %
Private Banking Current Accounts (1)				
Up to £2,000	0.50	1.00	0.40	0.80
£2,000+	1.48	1.48	1.19	1.19
£10,000+	2.96	3.21	2.38	2.58
£50,000+	3.45	3.45	2.76	2.76
Private Banking Savings Accounts (1)				
Up to £10,000	5.61	6.08	4.48	4.86
£10,000+	5.80	6.27	4.84	5.01
£50,000+	5.89	6.37	4.71	5.09
£100,000+	6.18	6.65	4.94	5.32
Private Banking Savings Accounts (1)				
Up to £10,000	6.75	6.25	4.80	5.00
£10,000+	6.95	6.45	4.76	5.16
£50,000+	6.85	6.35	4.84	5.24
£100,000+	6.35	6.85	5.08	5.48
Investment Management				
Cash held on the Capital Account within our Investment Management Service will earn interest at the following rates:				
	Gross %	Previous Gross %	Net %	Previous Net %
Up to £5,000	1.50	1.50	1.20	1.20
£5,000+	5.94	6.11	4.51	4.68
£10,000+	5.83	6.30	4.66	5.04
£50,000+	5.92	6.40	4.73	5.12
£100,000+	6.21	6.69	4.98	5.36

Gross % is the rate before the deduction of tax applied to interest on savings. Net % is the rate after the deduction of tax, applicable to interest on savings accounts, currently 20%. Higher rates, tax payers will have an additional benefit.

(1) This product is no longer available to new customers.

Midland Private Banking is a trading name of Midland Bank Trust Company Limited, a subsidiary of Midland Bank plc. This interest rate notice is issued by Midland Bank plc, PO Box 787, Hemel Hempstead, Herts. HP2 4SS.

Asda launches a novel way to read favourite author

Roger Cowe

THE Asda supermarket group today launches a "read-a-book" service that will extend the range of books, CDs and videos it offers.

The move follows Asda's recent entry into the mobile phone price war and popular battles that aim to save shoppers money by selling cheap vitamins, perfumes and designer clothing. It represents a further assault on booksellers, following the collapse two years ago of the Net Book Agreement which prevented book discounting.

But Asda's books manager, Julian Graham-Rack, said there would still be room for the traditional bookseller. "We are going for value and convenience," he said. Asda and other supermarket chains were quick to grab the opportunity to sell top titles at special prices. Its 200-plus stores sold more than seven million books last year, concentrating on cookery, children's titles and popular fiction. It claims to sell more copies of popular authors such as Stephen King than any bookseller and frequently reaches 40,000 copies of popular titles.

But limited space in the supermarkets means that they can offer only a limited range in each store — typically the top 30 hardback and paperback titles.

Asda aims to overcome that next year with the launch of an Internet service but in the meantime has set up a deal with Gardners, a leading distributor, which will give shoppers access to 140,000 book titles, CDs and cassettes and 7,000 discounted videos.

If it was sold on a typical shop floor the range would require 35,000sq ft of space — much smaller than Waterstone's in Glasgow, which checks in at 54,000sq ft and is reckoned to be the biggest book shop in the world.

Asda's telephone range is also put into perspective by the 1.4 million titles available from Amazon, the leading bookseller on the Internet.

But Mr Graham-Rack pointed out that only about a tenth of the population has access to the Internet, so there would be a need for telephone ordering for some time. "We would never turn the phones off because that would make the service unavailable to the vast majority of the UK population."

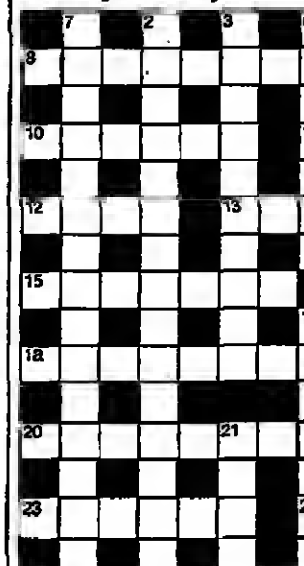
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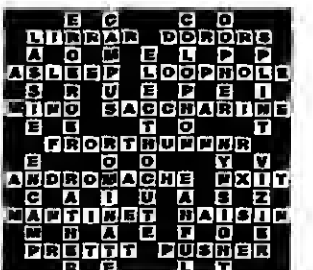
Guardian Crossword No 21,449

Set by Fawley



- Across**
- State one's in, given choice of North or South? (8)
 - Big stars in 8 noticed high-flyer taking a dive? (8)
 - On back roads, trained learner driver? (8)
 - Source of treasure found around Eastern Caribbean is most hard to swallow? (8)
 - Person ineffectual with naughty child? (4)
 - See me and son returning with pride, showing awards? (10)
 - Notable examples of past angry debate? (7)
 - Fight with queue where documents are kept? (3,4)
 - Not the first antique sale arranged in succession? (10)
 - Fool rejecting love reciprocated? Par for the course? (4)
 - Feel the same as I refuse to

- Down**
- Possible outcome of 22, after retirement, carrying conviction? (8,7)
 - One producing copy of society's agenda? (8,5)
 - Dolly's mini is outrageous — I'll look for the catch? (5,3-2)
 - Pub rules for 20ing stock? (3,4)



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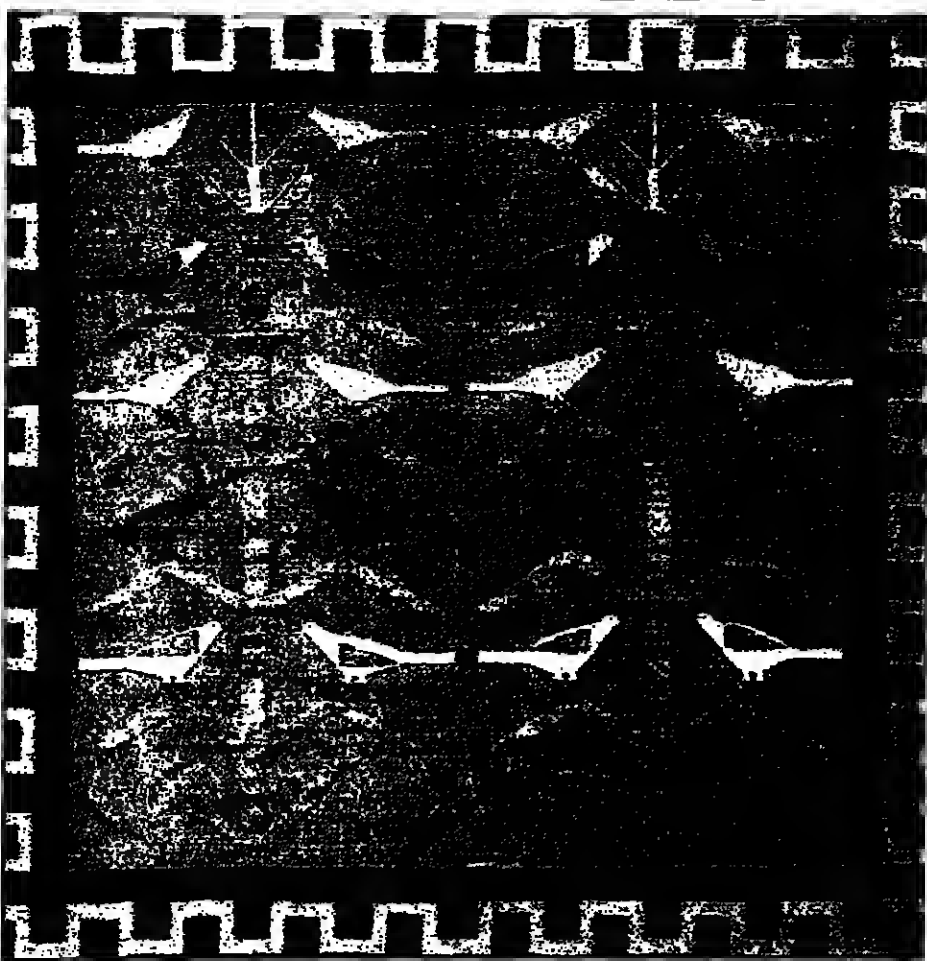
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G E



A Navajo weaving and (below) a prehistoric Aleut mask returned to the tribes yesterday



Michael Ellison in New York on a symbolic victory for the tribes



A Lesson in the History of Pioneer Days, by Paul Pletka, one of 600 lots on sale in New York yesterday. Nineteen were withdrawn after Indian protests

Indians reclaim their heritage

NATIVE American Indians won a symbolic victory yesterday — their second in a month — by halting the sale of tribal art they consider to be sacred.

Nineteen objects were withdrawn at Sotheby's in New York after Indian tribes protested that their cultural heritage should not be sold into private hands.

Another three of the 600 lots went to buyers who said they would hand them over to the relevant tribes. These were a

Plains ceremonial club, a Yurok ceremonial dance apron and a 16th or 17th-century Aleut wooden mask.

Allison Young, cultural heritage director of the Aleutian/Pribilof Islands Association, said: "There are no words to describe the joy the people in the region will feel when they see the ancestral object."

But Edmund Carpenter, an anthropologist who believes that the objects should stay in private ownership, said he was saddened by what had happened. "Disgust is too pos-

sitive. It's a sad scene," Mr Carpenter, who fears that the tribes will not look after the artefacts properly, opposes a 1980 law which returns many items to the Native Americans but makes no provision for their care.

Some of the art was withdrawn after fears arose that they might breach a 1916 act that makes it illegal to sell the feathers of migratory birds. Sotheby's holds two sales of Native American art each year and last had trouble in 1994 when the Iroquois tribe

claimed that a collection of face masks was fake.

The wooden Eskimo mask was bought for \$46,000 (\$28,000) by Anne Bleeker Corros, of California, who plans to return it to the Aleuts. "It's a personal thing," she said. "I feel it's important for native Americans to receive these things back, especially those of ceremonial and spiritual value."

Anne Rockefeller Roberts, president of the Fund of the Four Directories which gives grants to Indian causes, bought the dance apron for \$11,500 "because this is an object that the Yurok nation has identified as sacred".

The ceremonial club, which the Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux tribes of Montana had wanted withdrawn, went for \$7,475.

A month ago Native American Indians finally became a political force when they won a referendum in California to extend casino gambling in the state. Television commercials during the campaign changed some perceptions, portraying

Indians as business people with economic policies.

Leonard Malatere, who works at the Native American Educational Services College, in Chicago, said: "Twenty, twenty-five years ago the Indian people were still going through a culture shock, ashamed of their identity."

"In the last 10, maybe 15 years, you've seen a cultural revival where the Indian people have come out strong through the United States. People are proud to say 'I'm Indian'."

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Kidd takes Rovers road to the top

BLAN KIDD yesterday said he was determined to take Rovers to the top of the football league. The 40-year-old manager, who has been at the club since 1994, said he was determined to win the league and the FA Cup.

Kidd's determination to win was seen when he was named as the new manager of Rovers. He had been at the club since 1994, and had won the league and the FA Cup in 1997.

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Jim White looks behind the TV image of Brian Kidd to find a man who had the boss's ear — and a nose for his job

FALL the talk of Alex Ferguson's return to Manchester United has been about the man who had the boss's ear — and a nose for his job.

It was the day after his return to Manchester United that Alex Ferguson was seen in a suit and tie, looking towards the camera.

Faithful follower finds urge to lead

Following Alex Ferguson's return to Manchester United, a faithful follower found the urge to lead.

King's College London Computing Officer

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Quick crossword No. 8922

Across

1. Cleverly (4)
2. Fair (6)
3. Judge (6)
4. Felt (6)
5. Felt (6)
6. Felt (6)
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25. Felt (6)

Steve Ball

Author of the book 'The Great Outdoors'.

Doonesbury

By Garry Trudeau

South Africa's last full tour of Britain and Ireland was in 1969 when they were hounded by anti-apartheid protestors. **Donald McRae** hopes history of a very different sort is made at Twickenham tomorrow when the Springboks go for a record 18th consecutive Test win

These charming men... Joost van der Westhuizen, above right, signs for an admirer; coach Nkomo Matsheke, above, looks on during training; Bobby Skinstad, right, poses with fans

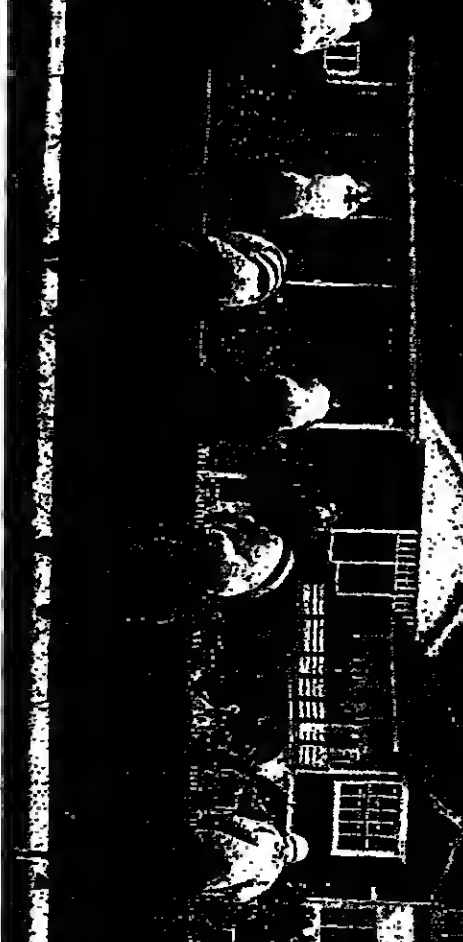
cultural wilderness as the result of the country's emigration. But, for the first time, the book has focused the spotlight on the Strathmore retirement community, studied politics and philosophy at Oxford and picking up blues in white picket fences. Having roughly cracked and prised the Macmillan book open, I had lived in Europe for 7 years, Macmillan also became his friend and confidante in Paris — and even in London — and even in his last years in St. Charles, north of Lyon.

As impressed as they are by those culinary and linguistic skills, others suggest that Macmillan's deviation from paralytic, atrophic, and ataxic Strathmore culture emerges most clearly in the confessions that he actually reads books by Stephen Fry, Alvin Toffler, and Stephen Fry had given him a copy of *The Lovers* in 1985, by which time Macmillan reads the novel. Macmillan reads the novel, Macmillan reads the novel, Macmillan reads the novel.

[illegible]

Trainers vent their anger as another National Hunt venue closes. **Chris Hawkins** reports

A black and white photograph showing a large, dense tree in the foreground, its branches and leaves filling much of the frame. In the background, a small, light-colored building with a dark roof is visible, partially obscured by the tree's foliage. The image has a high-contrast, grainy quality.



Last leap... runner clear the fence in front of the stands on the final day's jump racing at Windsor.

NOTHING has ended — Nottinghem has elected jumping and Lingford is about to. We've got to re-formulate the next generation in the city to assure the Saltby Dielsa Windsor's Recreance manager, et. spent otherwise the track

would be no good for either code something had to go. If the crowd's had turned up we wouldn't be in this alternative. We needed a minimum of 1,500 to break even but the public just hasn't come. The Levy Board recognises

the need to keep jumping so-ing and jays courses £10,000 per week-day as a future incentive during the winter while hawthorn's more jump-ing days next year with £28 tickets as against 524 this year.

ALAN HEBERT

Sport in brief

1:40.00 Dan P. 39.00 **1:39.00** James
P. 38.00 **1:38.00** Dan P. 37.00 **1:37.00** James
P. 36.00 **1:36.00** Dan P. 35.00 **1:35.00** James
P. 34.00 **1:34.00** Dan P. 33.00 **1:33.00** James
P. 32.00 **1:32.00** Dan P. 31.00 **1:31.00** James
P. 30.00 **1:30.00** Dan P. 29.00 **1:29.00** James
P. 28.00 **1:28.00** Dan P. 27.00 **1:27.00** James
P. 26.00 **1:26.00** Dan P. 25.00 **1:25.00** James
P. 24.00 **1:24.00** Dan P. 23.00 **1:23.00** James
P. 22.00 **1:22.00** Dan P. 21.00 **1:21.00** James
P. 20.00 **1:20.00** Dan P. 19.00 **1:19.00** James
P. 18.00 **1:18.00** Dan P. 17.00 **1:17.00** James
P. 16.00 **1:16.00** Dan P. 15.00 **1:15.00** James
P. 14.00 **1:14.00** Dan P. 13.00 **1:13.00** James
P. 12.00 **1:12.00** Dan P. 11.00 **1:11.00** James
P. 10.00 **1:10.00** Dan P. 9.00 **1:09.00** James
P. 8.00 **1:08.00** Dan P. 7.00 **1:07.00** James
P. 6.00 **1:06.00** Dan P. 5.00 **1:05.00** James
P. 4.00 **1:04.00** Dan P. 3.00 **1:03.00** James
P. 2.00 **1:02.00** Dan P. 1.00 **1:01.00** James
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Sport98 | 9

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**Counties vote to
divide in the hope
they can conquer**

[illegible]

Hollioake has rare chance to make late Test claim

[illegible]

Blooming Rose raises hopes of avoiding cut

David Davies reports on the first round at Royal Adelaide

JUSTIN Spence, usually happy, politics man, these recently stressed him, allowed himself a brief moment ofasperity yesterday at the Holden Australian Open.

The 38-year-old Regentham who created a sensation when, as an amateur, he finished fourth in this year's Open Championship at Royal Birkdale last year, completed a comfortable even-par round of 72 over the demanding Royal Adelaide course, a score so good that it left him three shots behind the first-round leader, the Australian Stuart Appleby.

It also put him with an exceedingly good chance of making the first cut since these glorious Birkdale days and, naturally, someone reminded him of this. "I'm getting a bit fed up with this stupid cut thing," he said, straightening sharply. "It's better played than that. If you set your sights on making the cut then there all you're going to achieve."

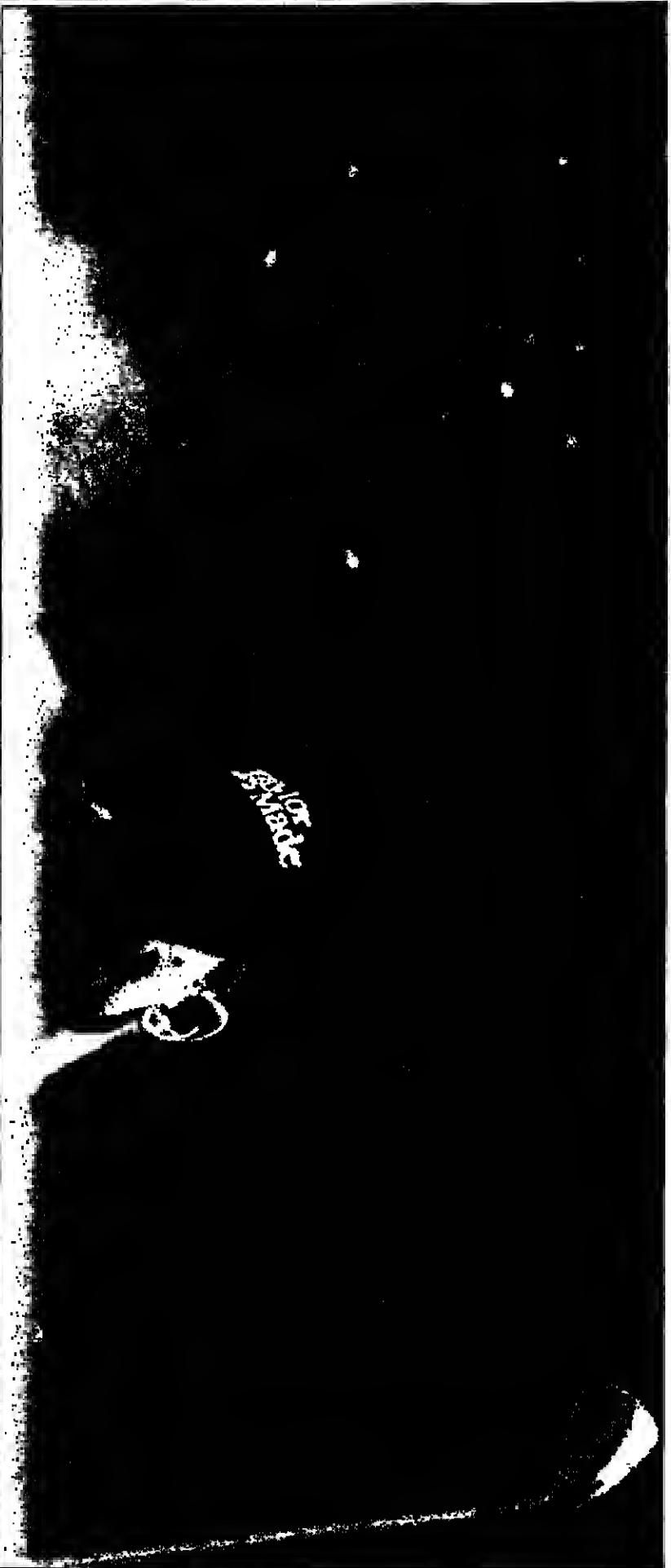
It was a welcome display of what is undoubtedly the right attitude, although it has to be said that Rose has, in his opinion, attempted to do better than he has. "I've seen the 'new' golfing school and in his opinion, the South Australian Open failed each time. That it appears not to have denied his confidence speaks highly for his inner belief."

Royal Adelaide languished and outperformed by Peter Thomson to provide a stronger test, achieved the objective. To miss the halfway was, unless lucky, to drop a shot, and as the wind gustled to, though there were plenty of

**Westwood's
formula keeps
him in range
of the elite**

Martin Gillingham at Sun City

Appleby fire lightens private gloom



Australian Open

vidits to length which had been especially weakened for this week.

"It made for some surprising scoring! Nick Faldo only took 77, Nick Faldo only one fewer Billy James than the winner, 84, and the runner-up, 85, was only one shot off the leader."

Stephen Allen, the winner of the German Open in August, finished with an 80. David Howell, who won the Anglo-Scottish, had the 86.

brock," and it's not any sense. I am getting used to going to bed by myself and working up and not having her around but it doesn't change the fact that I can't do without her. I'm getting used to the truth, though, to the fact that she's not going to be around. It's never going to happen."

Concentration is a problem for Appleby. "One minute I'm good, the next day it's very

'I am getting used to going to bed alone but I can't do without her'

was three under par after eight holes and finished with a two-under 70, and Greg Chuldrin, who has been a professional golfer since he finished sixth in Europe this season, was on 71.

Apology is beginning to emerge from the tragedy of the death of this week's Kentucky Derby winner, American Pharoah, who was killed two days after his victory at Keeneland Race Track in Lexington, Ky. "I have lived the nightmare of your month," he said yesterday.

Very hard to keep the flames contained, he said his furious ranting was "the last thing I wrote on the US tour point to his class."

When Rose was aged only 10 his father, Ken, adopted him and named him American Pharoah and asked if he would like to go to the Kentucky Derby. He said he was going to be the best "Nicks" ever. Eight years ago, of course, that was highly desirable.

Million Dollar Challenge

world's leading 10 players. He had a low, rapid 32-year-old, left-handed, 5'10" left-hander and is five thirds off the first-curved lead ball by the first year's champion Nick Price. The Zimbabwean had six birdies on the card yesterday and a single blamish on the 15th to land by two shots from Mark O'Meara, Bernhard Langer and Justin Leonard, who all shot 68s.

down the green and into the cup.

Although there was only a disparity between the lowest at the fifth and sixth and a further birdie at the next-day 8th was cancelled by a dropped shot of the last.

"I played solidly all day and should have been five shots better," he said.

Westwood is in joint seventh place in the 12-man field and one shot behind another Briton, the 1986 champion Colin Montgomerie.

Westwood had not off to a

found it hard reading the greens and can see why people struggle to win here on their first visit."

Westwood will partner another first-timer in today's

Tennis

Davis Cup shines under lesser lights

[illegible]

Squash

Nicol battles a step closer

Richard Lago in Dublin

PETER NICOL, moved to within two miles of being the first British man to be

He was almost blind from his hurt caused the previous day against the Australian Billy Hargreaves and the amount of fuel left in the tank is becoming a worry.

REGISTRATI SUBITO IN PORTA

PEPES NICOL moved to within two miles of beating the first British man to become world champion when he fought a determined and patient challenge from the English No.1 Phil Johnson to reach the semi-finals of the World Open yesterday.

The world No.1 from Scotland triumphed 3-15, 15-17, 15-9 but had to save a game point at 16-11 in the third game and was obliged to expend considerable energy to reach a match lasting 79 minutes.

Hadfield and the amount of fuel left in the tank is becoming a worry.

Nicol now plays the first Belgian to reach a world semi-final, the unseeded Steve Jönvall.

Jonathan Power's 15-5, 15-2, 15-10 victory over the English 15th ranked player, Andrew Stott, was a consolation.

Power was not one-sided; it led to many errors by the Englishman's supporters and some of the organisers. Power's next opponent is another outsize semi-finalist, Anthony Hill.

Team talk

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Ararat	80	Duty County	75	North, Forest	85
Baker Vils	81	Environ	76	Oxford	86
Barnes	82	Environ	77	Perth	87
Bism City	83	Galtney	78	Perrysburg	88
Bloomington	84	Hadd Town	79	Reading	89
Boston	85	Jessiah Town	75	Shafeld United	85
Brentford	86	Lancs United	76	Sheffield Wed	86
Burnley	87	Lancaster City	77	Southern	87
Bury	11	Liverpool	78	Spurs City	81
Canterbury	72	Man City	79	Stoke	82
Chorlton	88	Mans United	80	Stoke City	83
Chorley	89	Middlemough	81	Stoke End	84
Creasey City	70	Nakel	82	Watford	85
Crestal Palace	71	Newcastle Ltd	83	West Ham	86
Dryden	15	Norwich City	84	Wendthorn	82

Screen reviews

JUST OUT

Babe Pig In The City

Dir: George Miller. With Magda Buzarski, James Cromwell. Cert U, 86 minutes.

It's A Wonderful Life

Dir: Frank Capra. With James Stewart, Donna Reed, Lionel Barrymore. Cert U, 126 minutes.

Rush Hour

Dir: Brett Ratner. With Jackie Chan, Chris Tucker, Tom Wilkinson. Cert 15, 98 minutes.

Twilight

Dir: Robert Barton. Paul Newman, Susan Sarandon, Gene Hackman. Cert 15, 85 minutes.

Dancing At Lughnasa

Dir: Pat O'Connor. With Meryl Streep, Michael Gambon, Catherine McCormack. Cert PG, 98 minutes.

On Combat La Chanson

Dir: Alain Resnais. With Pierre Arditi, Sabine Azema, Jean-Pierre Bourt. Cert PG, 122 minutes.

Year Of The Horse

Dir: Jim Jarmusch. With Neil Young and Crazy Horse. Cert 15, 107 minutes.

CRITIC'S CHOICE

1. Out Of Sight

George Clooney and Jennifer Lopez cut to the chase in George Clooney's fast, funny, easy film noir treasure.

2. It's A Wonderful Life

James Stewart plays the job-like American everyman in Frank Capra's perfectly prepared Yuletide feast.

3. My Name Is Joe

Peter Mullan's performance powers Loach's tough drama from Glasgow's DSS landscape.



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The Guardian & INTERACTIVE

The Guardian Friday December 4 1998



Xan Brooks on a kids' film that's dark and dangerous enough for adults

Squeals of horror

There's a kid sitting down from me at the Babar Pig in The City preview. The little moppet with his mother in tow. When the curtain goes back, this kid lets out a euphoric roar. Let me on — at about the time when Mickey Rooney's clown has a heart attack and dies — he is led ashore-faced from the cinema. Minutes pass. On screen, a pit bull dog is simultaneously being throttled by his choke-chain and drowned head-first in a canal. Off screen, two more children see soft-boiled up the noise.

This quiet exodus serves as a sideshow throughout Pig In The City. What we have here is a eulogy and perverse creature a film with a death-wish: a picture that bites the hand that feeds it. I rather liked it.

Directed by George (Mad Max) Miller, Pig In The City arrives in Britain, trailed by disastrous production has run wildly over schedule, while a recent Sunday morning preview was cancelled at the eleventh hour (usually a sure sign that the product is a stinker). Most worrying were the reports of gushy test screenings in the US, with unimpressed audiences apparently judging Miller's barnyarding "too dark" by half. Well, at

least they had that right. Dark? Pig In The City is positively char-grilled.

Let us assume that these horrible vanishing children are fans of the original Babar. They say it's more likely caught up with it later on video. They're thrilled to its less mix of live-action animals with digital puppets. Its charming, witty script and key vegetable garden. So they moose along to see the sequel and are confronted by an altogether different kettle of fish: less bright, less funny, less sweet-natured than the Babar of old. Poor James — it must be the peeing of some tiny Christmas wrapping and finding a hairy mark inside.

Full marks for daring, then. What's less expected is that Babe turns out right in the end. Admittedly, Pig In The City is far from perfect. This has the dampness of a troubled editor.

Its story is segmented into awkward chapters (Chaos Theory, Christmas, The ending alarmingly abbreviated, he nestled in the milk-die lies the real meat of the film, and a surprisingly rich and exotic meat is it, Pig In The City — a voice-over informs us — is set in the place just a little to the left of the 20th century; and hops quickly from the storybook-rustic farm

owned by Ross Hoggett (James Cromwell) to a generic urban jungle. Babar Big Ben, the Eiffel Tower and Sydney Opera House all share the same cramped stretch of screen.

"Cheap-pig" Babe (again voiced by SG Duffy) is in town to test his herding skills at the Stee Fair but gets separated from the matronly Mrs Hoggett (Maggie Szustowski) and falls in with Mickey Rooney's ragging troupe of circus monkeys (voiced by the likes of Steve Wright, Genna Headly and James Cosmo). Hopping up at a fleapit hotel, he becomes a messiah-type ("His Phikness") for the town's wools and streys, feeding the hungry from a jar of jelly-beans before city pound workers break in, bust up the party and cart all and sundry off to the vivisection lab.

It is in these bleakest moments that Miller's film comes into its own. Babe is pursued through a wrecking yard by two snarling wreck dogs, while the grueling hotel invasion has an unlikely echo of the notorious clearing-the-shed section from Schindler's List. And while no animals are actually shown to die (this is still a kids' flick after all), many come perilously close. We are afforded a glimpse of a cheery goldfish expiring amid the shattered fragments of its bowl and a crippled hound lying broken at

Friday Review

Friday December 4 1998

I am big. It's the pictures that got small

The real Sunset Boulevard



PHOTOGRAPH OF ANITA PAGE. SILENT SCREEN STAFF WITH A WHILE RANCKED THIRD HIGHEST STAFF AT MOM. JOAN CRAWFORD AND GARYO WERE IN NUMBER ONE AND TWO. BY THE M-L-T-H-B-E-R-B-R-O-T-H-E-R-S

Eighty reasons to forget the eighties vi | How Dreamworks has re-animated the movies vi | Babe's comeback viii

At the height of her career, Anita Page received 35,000 fan letters a week. She started in Broadway Melody, which won Best Picture at the First Academy Awards in 1929. The ceremony was held at the Hollywood Roosevelt, and this is where she closed to meet the Mutt-Mawee brothers for the first time.

I heard it,
honey ...
Anita
Pegge, who
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PHOTOGRAPH-
THE MULTI-
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THE MULTI-MEYSE BROTHERS

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McCarthy, the actress, was a pseudonym for a collection of subversives in America.

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David Lean movie in summation, or a Steven Spielberg one."

[illegible]

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At the same time, the standards used to judge the work have jumped to new heights. "Everything does 'earn' works" in the base in which we've jumped to new heights. "Everything does 'earn' works" in the base in which we've jumped to new heights. "Everything does 'earn' works" in the base in which we've jumped to new heights.

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of the gemma, a great entrepreneur. David Galbraith is the first time, and that I've donated an entrepreneur and that's and that's could work. I said, 'The DreamWorks to take one and I think

the lawyers are still hag-
gling the exact amount he'll
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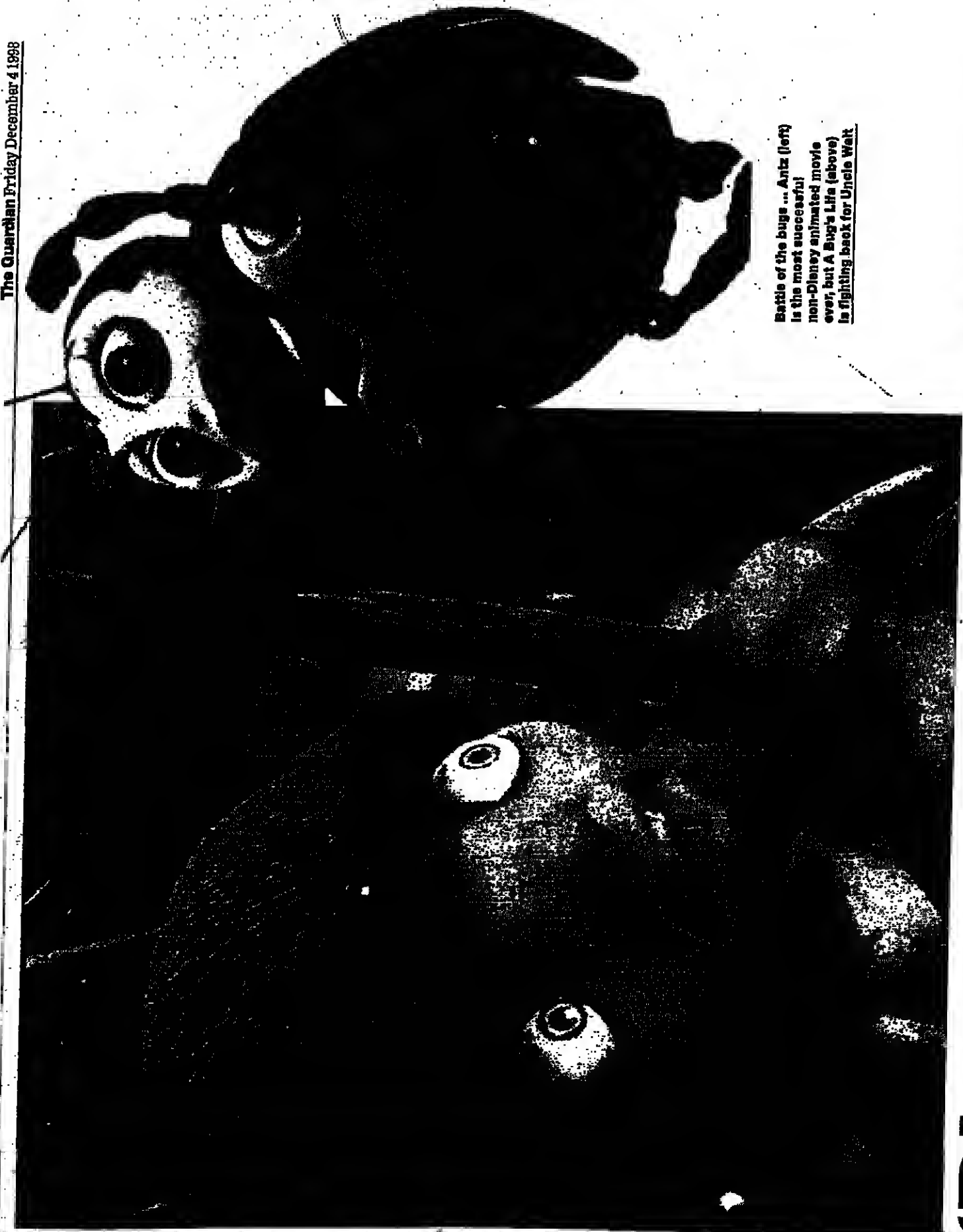
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Melanie Lynskey
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Wonderful

VI Screen



'Disney makes cartoons. DreamWorks makes animated movies'

Jeffrey Katzenberg tells **David Eimer** how he is going to take revenge on his main rival and former employer

When Antz, the first animated feature from DreamWorks SKG, overtook box office take of Beavis and Butt-head Do America in November, it became the most successful non-Disney animated movie ever. Still a number one in the UK this week, Antz is the first shot in a war that will determine whether Disney can maintain the monopoly it has held since 1927, when Walt and co put out Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs, the world's first full-length cartoon. And, just in time for the competition, Disney's own insect feature, A Bug's Life, has shot in at number one in the US.

The man largely responsible for ushering in this war of the animation is Jeffrey Katzenberg, the 47-year-old former studio chief at Disney who left in 1984, after a stormy relationship. He is now the head of the room as he is a man living the dream of every Hollywood executive, where you don't just run the studio, you own it as well.

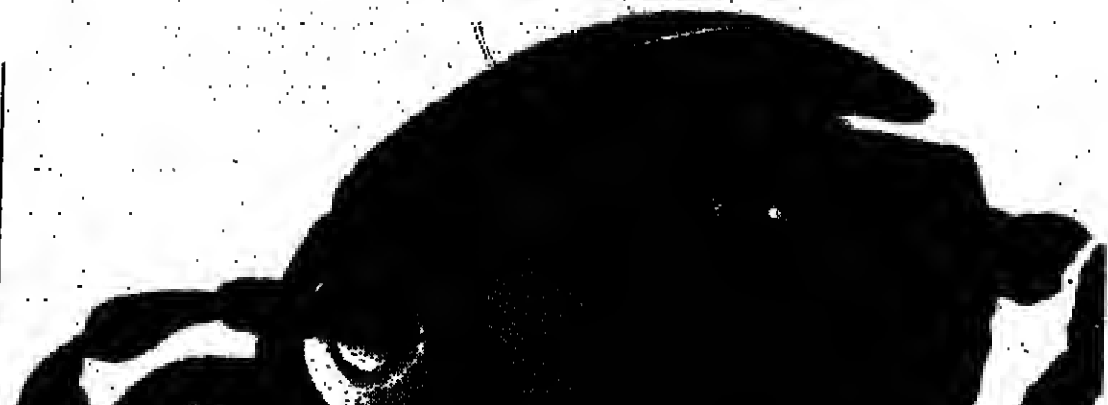
He is clearly delighted by the success of Antz, but Katzenberg knows that for more rests on his company's second animated film, The Prince of Egypt, released here

on December 18. With a budget estimated at nearly \$100 million, it tells the epic story of Moses. The brief look as it was drawn by Gustav Doré (the 19th century French illustrator), painted by Monet and photographed by David Lean, showing the studio's artistic ambition.

Disney makes cartoons. DreamWorks makes animated movies. Katzenberg can't resist a sly jab at his old boss in explaining the difference. "I think it's certainly unique and unlike any animated movie made before. Sixty-year-old Walt Disney took a technique called animation and told the first king-form feature, and he chose, because of his interests, a fairy-tale. He wanted to make a movie for children. And because he was the only one using the technique of animation, we all here today and animation is a genre and the genre is fairy-tales for toddlers."

"So the idea that you could take a variety of stories in different genres has simply never happened before. That's both the good news and the bad news. The good news is you can take the audience on a ride they've never had before. The story part is that you're trying to do something different and you've really got to get an audience to open their mind to come in and see a John Ford movie in animation, a

The Guardian Friday December 4 1998



Battle of the bugs... Antz (left) is the most successful non-Disney animated movie ever, but A Bug's Life (above) is fighting back for Uncle Walt

The Guardian Friday December 4 1998



A Hollywood glamour shot of Frances Lee, left, end, below, Anita Garvin in a Laurel & Hardy film

co-star Fay Wray who recently gave an NEA lecture and was this year invited to the Academy Awards ceremony as part of its 75th anniversary of 75 years of the institution.

But there are many actresses who married and changed their name, whom even the Multi-Meuses brothers couldn't coax back in front of the cameras. "You are writing to a person who no longer exists," came one reply. Another actress, Pauline Goddard, claimed that she had left her film career firmly in the past: "When I found myself 38th billing between a dog called Starlight and a horse named Thunder, I knew it was time to get out."

Frances Lee, 35, began her career as a Ziegfeld Follies dancer before becoming a star at the Al Christie Comedy Studios. She churned out a two-reeler comedy every week, and was offered a contract by Warner Brothers on the same day as Ruby Keeler and Al Johnson. Many of my friends were frightened when Al Johnson made the last singer because they had said she was a foreign voice," she said.

"Hollywood was in turmoil when sound came in. Some survived, but others were their tit by the stock market crash of 1929." In 1932, Frances auditioned for King Kong. She lost out to Fay Wray, who could scream louder. Lee still regrets that she hadn't been told the screen was so important.

When the brothers told her Wray was visiting London she asked, "I wonder how loud Fay can scream now! I bet I can scream louder." Lee married the producer Anthony Bennett, brother of silent screen actress Ed Bennett. Like many screen husbands, he became jealous of her success and was delighted when she retired to have children. In the fifties, after 20 years away from the screen, and with her children grown up, she embarked on a second career. Now Myrna Bennett (her real married name), she taught etiquette to, among others, Richard Nixon's daughters.

One former actress interviewed in the documentary, Joy Hodges, also left Hollywood and the movies of her own accord, and would never consider returning to the acting trade. Now based in Palm Springs she was a song and dance star who married well and "it is only since we began writing to her that she has begun to decorate her home with the photographs of the original King Kong

It is the relationship of the twins to the interlovers and their intimacy with the subject that makes the film so poignant. Once released, the actresses featured readily destroy and create a few myths on cinema's leading men that could veritably now clutter the Hollywood Babylon canon. Clarke Gable had his false teeth in the Hollywood Babylon canon. He paid them out in company, exposing a line of brown stumps beneath, together with a bad case of halitosis. But there was nothing false about Gary Cooper's stud image. "He was hung like a horse and could keep going all night," one of the interlovers remembers, fondly.

For Anita Page, it was the presence of Austin Multi-Meuses that made the memory of her favourite leading man live again. Seated for her interview, rolling her eyes like the great silent star she played, Austin leading towards her with his black, slicked-back hair and a moustache as thin as a stocking seam. "It's Ramon," she called to her daughter. "It's Ramon Novarro."



They were the stars of the silent movies, living in obscurity — until a pair of young British twins decided to put them back on screen. Michael Collins reports

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The White Album is 30 years old—but why celebrate? **John O'Reilly** argues that it amounts to little more than a good cover design and two records that could have been one

his own madness. This is not
the least of the album's virtues.

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In a way, Garbancr Popper
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 the Beatles were once great.